

## THE TIMES Tomorrow

**Stage coach**  
Profile of the Royal Ballet's challenging choreographer, Sir Kenneth Macmillan



**Home front**  
Ronald Butt analyses Leon Brittan's defence of the Government's "radical" credentials

**Drinking problem**  
The EEC has demanded tax changes for wine in Britain: a look at the Chancellor's options in the next Budget

**Cricket shorts**  
Derek Hodgson reports from New Zealand on the second of England's one day cricket matches

**Book choice**  
Reviews of a new work on Ernest Rutherford, the first man to split the atom, and the latest crop of thrillers

## Brittan blames the unions

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, yesterday laid the blame for Britain's 3 million unemployed at the feet of the trade unions and successive Labour governments.

Addressing the Institute of Directors convention in London, he also reiterated that the professions should not remain unnecessarily sheltered from "the stiff breezes of competition".

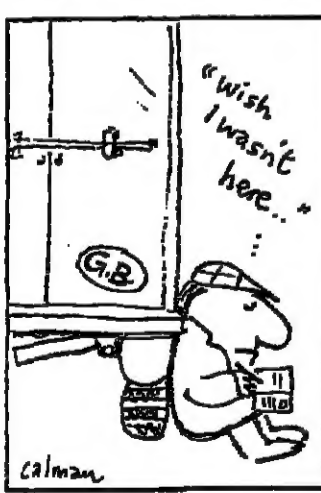
Convention report, page 8

## Labour 'budget'

Mr Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, yesterday laid down guidelines for a more moderate Labour economic policy in his alternative budget.

## Botha summit

A summit between Mr P. W. Botha, South Africa's Prime Minister, and President Machel of Mozambique seems likely before the two countries sign a joint security pact.



## Sterling surges

The pound and dollar both rose sharply against other currencies on fears of threats to Western oil supplies from the Middle East.

## Corbiere better

Corbiere, the 1983 Grand National winner, was confirmed as a likely runner for this year's Aintree race after x-ray examination of his injured leg revealed no broken bones.

**Leader page 15**  
Letters: On Antarctica, from Mr M. Dent, and Mr S. Johnson; MEP: Police Bill, from Mr Douglas Hurd; TV adjudication, from his Hon L. Wilkes. Leading articles: Lebanon; Mr Kinnock and the EEC; South Africa.

**Features, page 12-14**  
Khomeini's child shock troops; Bernard Levin, no holds barred on the South Bank; Phillip Whitehead take issue with Mrs Thatcher over the Omani affair. Spectrum: an echo of the Falklands. Wednesday Page: a bilingual approach to folklore. China's New Frontier: A Special Report on the southern provinces of Guangdong and Fujian.

**Obituary, page 16**  
Mikhail Sholokhov, Miss Lucy Duff Grant.

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# Thatcher says most GCHQ workers support union ban

● The Prime Minister told Parliament that she had won the support of most staff at Government Communications Headquarters in Cheltenham for the decision to deprive them of trade union rights.

● Mrs Thatcher agreed to meet the unions' leaders tomorrow, but has given no indication that she will change her ground.

● The Civil Service unions accused the Government of "massaging" the acceptance figures to include Cheltenham employees who were not union members.

● The director of GCHQ told those of his staff so far undecided that without union membership they would still benefit from national agreements on pay and conditions.

By Julian Haviland and David Felton

The Prime Minister yesterday said in Parliament that the Government had won the support of the majority of staff at the Cheltenham communications headquarters for its decision to deprive them of trade union rights.

Official sources said that no more than about a dozen out of a supposed total of 7,000 union and non-union employees had positively refused the Government's terms as urged by leaders of the Civil Service unions, and asked to be transferred.

At the same time Downing Street published the text of a letter sent yesterday to his staff by the director of the headquarters, Mr Peter Marychurch, which was framed to win over those two to three thousand who have yet to make up their minds. They have been given until March 1 to decide.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, after again discussing with senior colleagues the mood at Cheltenham and the progress of discussions between the unions and Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary to the Cabinet, agreed to hold a further meeting with the union's national leaders tomorrow.

But not once since her last meeting with them on February 1 has Mrs Thatcher given any indication that she is willing to change her ground.

Nor did she yesterday. She seemed rather to see the new policy as already implemented when she said in the Commons that Cheltenham had now been brought into line as with other security organizations.

She told a Labour questioner that the majority at GCHQ had accepted the Government's offer and a minimal number had refused it.

It was said afterwards that taking union and non-union staff together, between 50 and 60 per cent had accepted Option A, by which they forego the right of trade union membership and accept £1,000 each in compensation.

Mr Marychurch's letter showed some concern about the undecided, assuring them that they would still be part of the Home Civil Service, particularly in relation to agreements about national pay and conditions.

Countering various allegations made by the unions and by Opposition MPs, Mr Marychurch said that the changes had not been arbitrarily imposed by the Government, but stemmed from an initiative by the Cheltenham management which he had always supported.

The impression had been created that the Government believed the staff to be lacking in loyalty. This was not so, ministers and the management

Continued on page 2, col 3

## Government defeat on phone tapping

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government was defeated last night when Labour, Alliance, and cross-bench peers voted to make telephone tapping subject to statutory control.

The surprise defeat came during the committee stage in the Lords of the Telecommunications Bill, the day after the Government was accused at the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg of "obsessive secrecy" over information about telephone tapping.

A clause was added to the Bill to control the right of the state to intercept telephone calls, and to provide for fines of up to £5,000 and three years' imprisonment for unauthorized tapping.

It was approved by 129 votes to 112 despite a plea from Lord MacKay of Clashfern, the Lord Advocate, that it would be

## Roadblocks trap British lorry drivers

By Richard Dowder

As many as 350 British lorry drivers may be stranded in France by the road hauliers' roadblocks, most of them in the valley up to the Mont Blanc tunnel. Some have been stuck for a week.

Mr Peter Young, the consul in Lyons, said two of his staff were travelling around the area, trying to contact British lorry drivers and mediating for them with police and the pickets.

"They are trying to persuade the pickets to allow the drivers to leave their trailers behind or to turn around or even to get through," he said.

They were also trying to get local people to help the stranded drivers. "No money has been given to drivers who are running short of fuel, but that can be done as a last resort."

A British lorry driver stranded in the valley up to Chamonix said yesterday that some of them were running short of money and food.

Mr Peter Mays, from Corby, in a telephone interview with the BBC's *World at One*, said: "It is very cold and snowing. We are having to try to find tyres and timber to burn to keep warm and dry. We are sleeping in the trucks, some of us have night heaters, but some of the trucks don't have heating."

He was with about 20 drivers who had spent six nights in these conditions. Other reports spoke of fuel freezing in the lorries' tanks and of drivers running out of fuel.

On the same programme, Mr Alan Payne, from the Lyons consulate, said he knew of no one in a very serious position.



The Princess of Wales meeting Gemma Sanger, aged 14 months, and her mother, Jane, yesterday at the Royal Marsden cancer hospital at Sutton, Surrey

## Israelis cross Awali again in massive show of strength

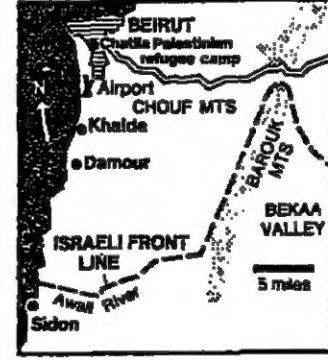
From Christopher Walker, Sidon

At a time when many Israelis are pressing for a quick withdrawal from occupied Lebanon, the Israeli Government has over the past 48 hours ordered one of the biggest shows of mechanized strength in the country since the invasion on June 6 1982.

United Nations sources told *The Times* that since Sunday, the Israelis had moved mechanized units into southern Lebanon and ferried in extra troops by helicopter. Yesterday, for the second time in only 48 hours, Israeli warplanes bombed what were described as "terrorist targets" in Lebanon.

On Monday, standing at what had been regarded as Israel's front line on the Awali Bridge, just north of the port city of Sidon, I watched as an Israeli armoured column of 15 tanks, two giant bulldozers, and over 60 crowded armoured personnel carriers rumbled north in a cloud of choking dust.

The massive show of force was apparently to deter vic-



torious Druze and Muslim militias from pressing further south from the coastal town of Damour, about 15 miles south of Beirut. It also let it be known that Israel would hit back if Palestinians began infiltrating southwards again, thus destroy-

minutes to roll noisily by. It was an impressive sign of the way in which Israel - despite the many doubts at home - is apparently still prepared to commit men and weaponry north of the Awali defence line to which it retreated last year. Confusingly, the push came just as the Israeli Cabinet is considering an army plan to move its defence line further south, and cut the military profile. No decision has yet been taken.

"That every vehicle carried a large, conspicuous Star of David, was indicative that it was a mission designed primarily to drive home a message rather than for combat," said a UN officer. "Political messages in Lebanon are traditionally sent by military means, and it seems Israel was following suit."

As the soldiers in their tanks, gogles waved from their tanks, giving the operation a war-movie flavour, a Christian militiaman waved back his

Continued on back page, col 6

## Trustees to keep control of Reuters

From a Staff Reporter

Reuters' Trustees are expected today to approve the formula by which they will retain control over the news agency's integrity and editorial independence after it becomes a public company in May.

The £1bn flotation on the stock exchange will give Reuters' owners, the Fleet Street and provincial newspapers, a multi-million windfall - made possible by the success of the agency's business-information systems.

A statement is expected early this afternoon.

## Tribunal orders arrest of General Galtieri

Former Argentine President General Leopoldo Galtieri could face immediate disciplinary action by Argentina's highest military court for having led the country into the disastrous Falklands War with Britain (Douglas Tweeddale writes from Buenos Aires).

The supreme council of armed forces questioned General Galtieri extensively yesterday about charges that he was negligent in his leadership of that war, and the news agency Noticias Argentinas reported that the military tribunal had ordered his arrest, after hearing his testimony.

## A rocker with a suite to match.

The Florian rocking chair is based on an 18th century ladderback design and perfectly demonstrates our craftsmen's skills for it is still hand finished to this day.

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## Mondale takes off-Glenn comes down to earth

From Nicholas Ashford Des Moines, Iowa

"Tonight is the beginning of the end of the Reagan Administration," Mr Walter Mondale told jubilant supporters after his crushing victory in the Iowa precinct caucuses on Monday night.

Easily fending off the challenge posed by his seven rivals for the Democratic nomination, he captured 50 per cent of the 85,000 votes cast. With a handful of results to come, the nearest runners-up were Senator Gary Hart, with 16 per cent, and Mr George McGovern, with 9 per cent.

The faltering campaign of Senator John Glenn suffered a crippling blow when the former astronaut finished fifth, with only 3 per cent. Monday was the 22nd anniversary of his crash orbit. As a rival campaign worker cruelly remarked, "He has finally come down to earth with a bang."

The other principal loser was Senator Alan Cranston who had hoped for second place, but



The big loser, the old campaigner, the first choice: Senator Glenn, Mr McGovern and Mr Mondale.

came fourth with 7 per cent. Of the other three candidates, Mr Reubin Askew, who had sought to win conservative Democrats to his side by campaigning against abortion, finished just behind Mr Glenn. The Rev Jesse Jackson and Senator Ernest Hollings did not campaign in Iowa and won only a handful of votes.

Although Mr Mondale's confident prediction about recapturing the White House is premature, his victory here bolsters his argument that the nominating process is all but

trade unions, teachers and young volunteers from his neighbouring home state of Minnesota, and to his triple theme of the need for fairness, economic recovery and a safer world.

Mr Hart has every reason to be pleased with his second place which should gain him the recognition and funds he has so far lacked. If, as is expected he comes second in New Hampshire, it could turn into a two-horse race. However, the gap remains enormous, although Senator Hart predicted it would narrow as other contestants dropped out.

Mr McGovern's third place came as a surprise. The former Senator from South Dakota had entered the campaign late, had virtually no money or organisation and is still remembered for the humiliating defeat he suffered at the hands of President Nixon in 1972. However, he presented himself as the liberal conscience of the Democratic Party and this clearly struck a chord with many Iowa voters.

"I performed a minor miracle here," he said. "The people of Iowa voted with their convictions and conscience." Although Mr McGovern said his performance would demonstrate that he is a viable candidate, he is not expected to perform as well in New Hampshire and other early primaries.

The biggest surprise was the scale of Mr Glenn's defeat. Although his campaign staff had known for weeks that the tide had turned, they still hoped he would finish a strong second.

"I got licked," the Ohio Senator conceded. But he said those who participated in the caucuses tended to be "liberal activists" and were not representative of the Democratic Party as a whole.

Although it is too early to write off Mr Glenn's chances, he could soon be out of the race unless he can make a strong showing in primaries over the next three weeks.

Man who came second, page 6 Frank Johnson, back page



# Hattersley takes moderate line in alternative budget

By Sarah Hogg, Economics Editor

Higher public borrowing, a lower sterling exchange rate, extra public investment and redistributive tax and social security changes were proposed by Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow chancellor, last night.

But his speech, designed to lay down markers for Labour's new economic policy, was far more moderate in tone than the £11,000m alternative budget outlined by Mr Peter Shore last night.

Mr Hattersley attached no numbers to his ingredients for an alternative budget in a speech to his constituency party in Birmingham, Sparkbrook. But he appeared to be arguing for only a "moderate" increase in public borrowing.

His budget, which he said was "more likely to meet the nation's real needs than the shibboleths of monetarism", rested upon:

- A "planned relaxation" of the public sector borrowing requirement.
- The concentration of "most" government spending on public investment.
- Increases in social security benefits, combined with tax changes to redistribute benefits from rich to poor.
- A "moderate" depreciation of sterling and "specific and limited" import controls to improve industry's competitiveness.

## Electronics boost for Scotland

By Ronald Faux

Shin-Etsu Handotsu of Japan, one of the world's largest silicon producers, announced yesterday that it will invest more than £20m in a silicon plant at Livingston, Lothian.

The move comes a few weeks after the American company, SCI Systems Inc. of Alabama, announced that it is to build a multi-million plant at Irvine New Town, Strathclyde. The two projects will create a thousand new jobs by the end of the decade.

Mr Allan Stewart, Minister for Industry and Education at the Scottish Office, welcomed the Japanese investment yesterday at a press conference in Glasgow.

## Danger of Chianti and drugs

By Thomson Prentice

The combination of drinking chianti and taking certain anti-depressant drugs could be fatal, Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Minister for Health, said in the Commons last night.

The Italian wine contains high levels of tyramine, a substance which cannot be metabolized in patients receiving treatment with the monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOIs) group of anti-depressants.

Sir David Price, Conservative MP for Eastleigh, had asked the Minister to identify the biochemical properties of Chianti in connexion with "certain drugs".

## Council workers to vote on pay offer

By Barrie Clement  
Labour Reporter

Leaders of 900,000 local authority manual workers yesterday agreed to put a "final" 4.5 per cent pay offer to their members.

The proposed deal, which will cost £115m, covers the largest single group of public sector workers and will be used as a precedent for more than two and a half million employees in central and local government. The offer breaks the Cabinet's pay guideline of 3 per cent.

It will inevitably influence the negotiations of leaders of 100,000 white collar staff in the National Health Service who yesterday called for a £100 minimum wage and a 7 per cent pay rise across the board.

Mr John Edmonds, who led the negotiating team for the council workers, said he would not be recommending the deal to members of the three unions involved. But he added: "We have a settlement that, with luck, will protect their living standards this year. But we still have a deep and serious problem about low pay."

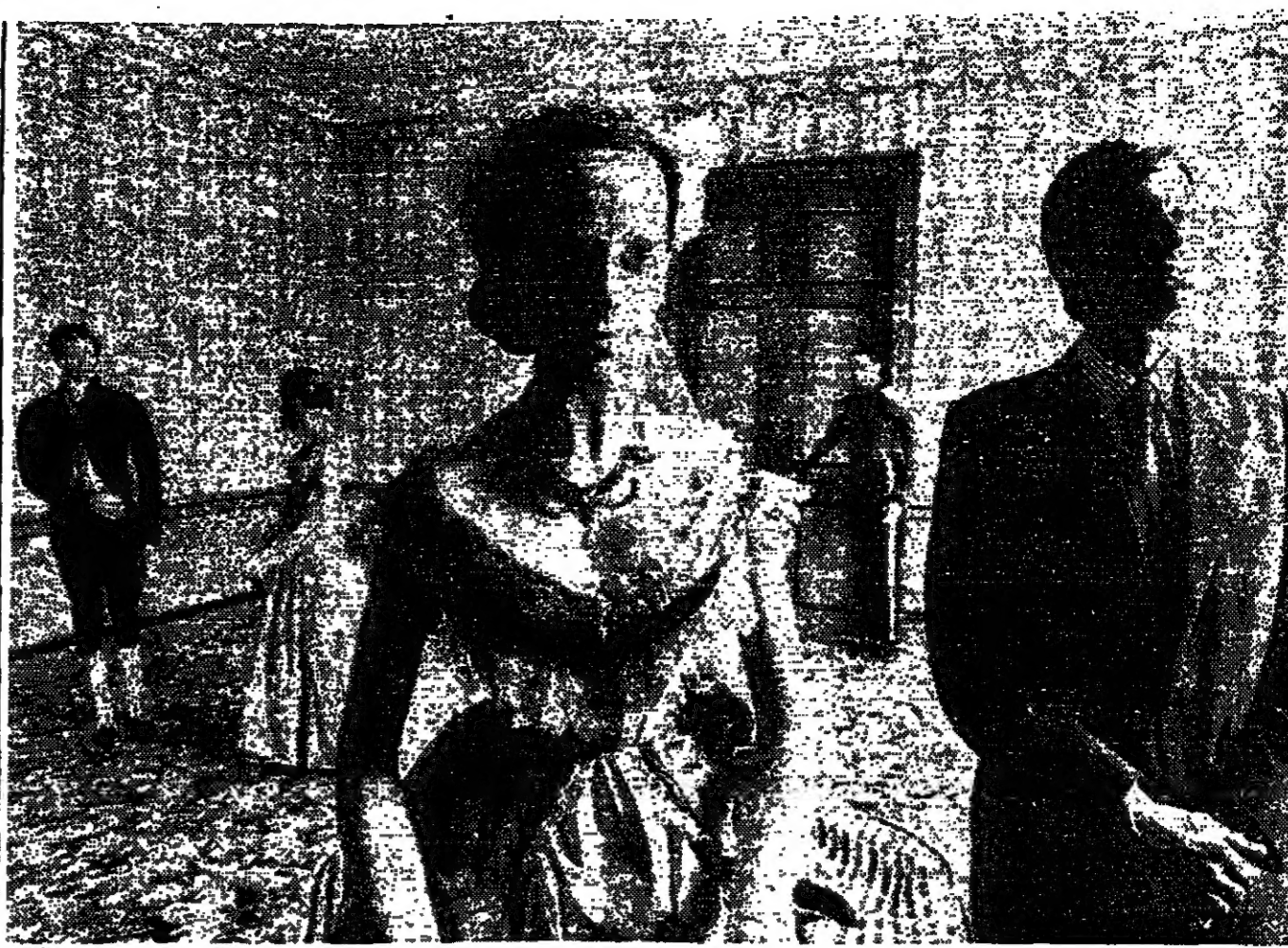
The local authority employers warned the union negotiators, who represent members of the general and municipal workers, the transport and general workers and the National Union of Public Employees, that the improved offer could mean redundancies, reduced services and more privatization.

The employers said: "The important factor the unions should remember is that we will be struggling to find the money for this settlement, and there is no question of negotiating more."

Pay talks last month ended with them repeating a 3 per cent offer amid union allegations that the Government had intervened to keep the wage offer down. Yesterday employers raised the offer first to 3.87 per cent and then to 4.4 per cent.

The deal consists of a flat rate increase for each grade of worker. Basic pay for the lowest grade would rise from £66.90 to £70.30, the highest grade, including craftsmen and some drivers, would receive £85.25, compared with £81.85. The total pay bill would rise by 4.5 per cent.

The employers said the effects of the pay rise on employment and services would vary, but they expected there would be some effect because of central government stringency. They are also anxious that the offer is not used as a benchmark for other council.



Regal Revival: Life-size models displaying dress worn at the British court from the late nineteenth century will be on view at Kensington Palace state apartments from May 24. Mr Nigel Arch, the curator, who assembled the exhibition, is on the right. (Photograph: Brian Harris.)

## RAF seeks more TriStars

By Rodney Cowton,  
Defence Correspondent

The RAF wants to embark on a programme costing up to £300m to replace its 22 Victor aircraft used as tankers for air-to-air refuelling.

The aircraft, which started life in the 1950s as bombers, are coming to the end of their operational service, and will probably be phased out by the end of the decade.

The Falklands conflict demonstrated the need for a much larger air tanker capacity and six Tri-Star wide-bodied jets were bought. Those, as well as nine VC10s, are being converted.

It is understood that the RAF wants to acquire a further five or six Tri-Stars at today's favourable prices and convert a similar number of VC10s to replace the Victors. Both aircraft have a much greater capacity than Victors.

Freedom to buy coal on the open world market would help the CEBG to cut its annual fuel bill, but the electricity industry has constantly underlined its willingness to help the coal board if prices can be brought down.

Its insistence on keeping the door slightly open to Australian imports is to provide a bargaining lever during annual contract price talks with the coal board.

Electricity generation experts have calculated that even with shipping costs, imported coal would still be substantially cheaper. A formula comparing coal produced in the North-east of England and delivered to the Thameside power stations with imports shows the following prices per tonne:

UK coal	£53
Polish	£51
S African	£31
Australian	£37
American	£37

The calculation also compensates for the generally poorer

## Cheap coal imports stockpiled abroad

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Britain's largest coal user, the Central Electricity Generating Board, has accepted a government request to limit its coal imports to 750,000 tonnes a year, even though Polish and South African coal is more than £20 a tonne cheaper than from Britain.

The government import limit, imposed to help the National Coal Board, has led to the CEBG stockpiling six million tonnes of Australian coal in Rotterdam, Antwerp and Amsterdam which it has bought under long-term contracts. Each year 750,000 tonnes are shipped to Britain.

Financial compensation is paid to the electricity supply industry by the Government for its agreement to take up 60 per cent of the National Coal Board's output each year, almost 77 million tonnes.

Freedom to buy coal on the open world market would help the CEBG to cut its annual fuel bill, but the electricity industry has constantly underlined its willingness to help the coal board if prices can be brought down.

Figures also show that Britain subsidizes each tonne by £3.20, West Germany by £4.50, France by £17.20 and Belgium by £17.70.

## Police extend husband's bail

Police yesterday extended until April 2 bail on the husband of Mrs Janice Weston, the solicitor whose body was found in a lay-by on the A1 last September. The Director of Public Prosecutions is still considering the file on the case.

Mr Anthony Weston was released from police custody on December 17 after being questioned for 55 hours.

## Rate rises likely to average 6%

By David Walker

Rates are likely to rise in April by an average of only 6 per cent, barely 1 or 2 per cent above the expected inflation rate. Budget meetings taking place in towns halls this week and next are expected to increase of between 4.5 and 9 per cent.

However, there will be some striking exceptions. Among the last councils to show their hands will be the inner-city Labour authorities such as Hackney in east London. Leader, Mr Anthony Kendall, has said that it might push rates up by far more than the rate of inflation to avoid redundancies.

Unexpected movements in the complex grants and targets are producing some freak increases. The district of Eden in Cumbria, covering Farnthorpe, where most councillors are "non-party", will increase its rate by 38 per cent.

Lothian yesterday decided to increase its rate by 10 per cent, with a £8m cut in expenditure. The police were called to evict protesters from the council chamber in Edinburgh.

Some exceptions to the 6 per cent average over the other way. The 7.5 per cent cut in the Greater London Council's rate already announced will allow some of the Conservative outer London boroughs to hold or even cut their rates slightly.

Harlow, for example, is about to declare that its precept is unchanged and its ratepayers could enjoy a 2.5 per cent cut. Good news for ratepayers could prove an embarrassment for Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, in steering the controversial Rates Bill through the House of Commons.

His Labour opponents will argue that the moderate rises prove that there is no need for the sweeping powers contained in the Bill.

## Labour tries to limit damage on IRA

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Labour leaders tried yesterday to limit the damage they fear may have been done to the party, at Chesterfield and elsewhere, by Miss Joan Maynard, who said on Monday that she would not consider the IRA to be terrorists.

Mr Peter Archer, QC, chief spokesman on Northern Ireland, said that Labour unhesitatingly condemned the IRA as

a terrorist organization, and emphasized that Miss Maynard, MP for Sheffield, Brightside and a member of the national executive had also condemned violence.

Mr Archer said he did not know whether Miss Maynard's words had been taken out of context or whether an interpretation had been placed on them that she did not intend, but he

said that the way they were being reported would assist the IRA cause.

Speaking on Radio 4's World at One, he said that Miss Maynard was probably saying that if there was no obvious redress for people's grievances within the constitutional system, some people unhappily, would take to violence. There was some truth in that, he said.

## GCHQ staff 'support union ban'

Continued from page 1

already been organized by the unions. They had earlier yesterday decided on their own propaganda initiative by presenting GCHQ staff with a third option which would allow them to join the union while retaining their employment.

Some union officials believed that it was that fresh initiative, predicted in *The Times* on Monday, which prompted the Prime Minister to make her statement in the Commons. The unions hope to embarrass the Government by securing support in the form of signed copies of their own option paper, from large numbers of staff.

Mr Jones said that most of the staff referred to by the Prime Minister were non-unionists and he accused the Government of "massaging" the figures. About 4,000 people are employed at Cheltenham and a further 3,000 at out stations elsewhere in Britain and abroad. The union estimate that their members represent about 60 per cent of the staff, with a higher proportion at Cheltenham.

The Civil Service unions had earlier urged members not to draw up plans for a one-day strike next Tuesday, when there is to be a national day of protest against the Government's union ban at Cheltenham.

Senior union officials are telling members to ignore calls from local activists for industrial action and to wait for the outcome of tomorrow's talks.

Trophies stolen

Thieves stole 12 silver trophies from Abingdon School in Oxfordshire which will be held next month to a crime prevention quiz run by Thames Valley Police.

## £125m oil vessel order lost

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

British shipbuilding and offshore construction yards face a new threat of lost business with the decision by Sun Oil, the American oil company, to place a £125m order for a revolutionary North Sea oil production vessel overseas.

The company and its partners in the Balmoral field development met on Monday and reaffirmed their decision to place the order overseas.

Ironically the order seems certain to go to the Swedish company Gotaverk Arenal, which is involved as technical adviser to all three companies bidding for the Scott Lithgow yard.

As a potential compromise, however, Sun Oil is understood to have offered that a sizable proportion of the assembly work for the floating production vessel could be done in British yards. The Cammell Laird yard at Birkenhead, which is also part of British Shipbuilders, was among those that hoped to win

the order. Howard Davis was another. The Balmoral development was approved by the Department of Energy in December. Ministers there have subsequently failed to convince Sun Oil to place the key production vessel order in Britain but they are still confident that 70 per cent of the overall orders for the field will still come here.

Trafalgar House, one of the three bidders to take over Scott Lithgow from British Shipbuilders, said it was keen to obtain orders for the Balmoral project, and could place them at the lower Clyde yard. "It would be a tragedy if this order, the first of its kind, were to go overseas", a spokesman said.

A Shop stewards at Scott Lithgow were yesterday assured by senior managers of Trafalgar House that the company had no plans to withdraw its bid (Ronald Faux writes).

British Shipbuilders warns of 2,000 job losses at Scott Lithgow after years' loss of £66m in 1982/83 financial year. British council 280m anti-submarine rig. Prime Minister refers to interview. Workers at yard back call for national strike over pay and conditions. British chairman Sir Philip Shelbourne says company is still prepared to talk about rig order. National shipyard strike called off. Trafalgar House says bid could save 1,500 jobs. Bechtel emerges as possible rival bidder for yard. Howard Davis expresses interest in yard. Trafalgar House signs conditional agreement with British Shipbuilders to acquire yard. Government says all bids will be considered. BP threatens to cancel its 260m rig order.

## Sale room

## £2,700 cap among secondhand clothes

By Huon Mallatien

In recent years car boot and garage sales have proliferated, and it is the dream of every dabbler in antiques to find an unconsidered gem in someone else's junk.

Some months ago Mrs Judith Howard, who lives near Melksham, Wiltshire, achieved just such a coup when she bought a lot for £10 in an informal local sale.

The lot included a colourful cap of notable quality which subsequently proved to be a gentleman's nightcap embroidered with silk and gold and silver thread dating from about 1600.

Yesterday in a sale of costume and textiles at Chris-

tie's South Kensington, it was auctioned again, this time going to Cora Ginsberg, a specialist dealer from New York, for £2,700 (estimate £2,000 to £3,000).

This sale, consisting for the most part of what would have been considered until recently to be second-hand clothes, did very well making £57,578 with around 9 per cent bought in over 126 lots. However, given the romantic appeal of the Jacobites, which sometimes translates well into financial terms, one lot might have been slightly disappointing. That was a bishop's mitre which belonged to the last of the Stuart pretenders, Henry IX, the Cardinal Duke of York. It sold for £1,000 (estimate £1,000 to £1,500).

In West Sussex, Sotheby's began a four-day series of sales at their Pulborough sale room with furniture, bronzes and works of art. A pleasing small George III satinwood and rosewood cross-banded secretaire chest of drawers, which dated from about 1790, went to the London dealers A & F Gordon at £6,820 (estimate £2,000 to £3,000), and a private bidder paid £4,730 for a restored set of six George III mahogany dining chairs, from about 1760 (estimate £1,500 to £2,500). The first session of the series produced a total of £150,683 with just under 4 per cent

## NGA joins study on newspaper technology

By Our Labour Reporter

An unprecedented level of cooperation over new technology between provincial newspaper publishers and the National Graphical Association is due to be announced tomorrow.

A joint study of several newspapers will be launched by the union and the Newspaper Society, the employers' body which represents about 1,100 publications. It will concentrate on the source of the material printed in the papers, a particularly sensitive issue.

The study will take place against the background of "Operation Breakthrough", an initiative started in late 1982 in which the Newspaper Society has said that a deal over new technology must be reached by the end of this year.

If there is no "enabling agreement" by then, the employers have pledged to go ahead with non-union labour. It is understood that some newspaper groups have already trained stand-by staff.

The study will reveal how much can be "keyed in" directly to computers by editorial and advertising staff and how much material originates from outside which would be typed in by NGA members.

Both sides are anxious to establish this ratio. The proportion will vary, with lower-staffed weeklies taking more material from outside.

At the moment the vast majority of copy appearing in provincial newspapers is processed by the union's "operators" although there are already signs that its monopoly is breaking down.

Most big regional newspapers have conducted their own surveys on the subject, but this will be the first public research. It is understood that the Newspaper Society hopes that the findings will be available for discussion by May.

The joint study is seen by the employers as more evidence that the union is slowly coming to terms with the inevitability of new technology.

The union is confident, however, that it will prove that there is still need for a substantial number of its members.

## 3 recovering after heart transplants

Three men were recovering yesterday from heart-transplant surgery at Harefield Hospital, west London where Mr Magdi Yacoub and his surgical team began a 19-hour stint on Saturday.

The first patient, Mr Stephen Syer, a design engineer, aged 41, from Cheltenham, Gloucestershire was already out of bed.

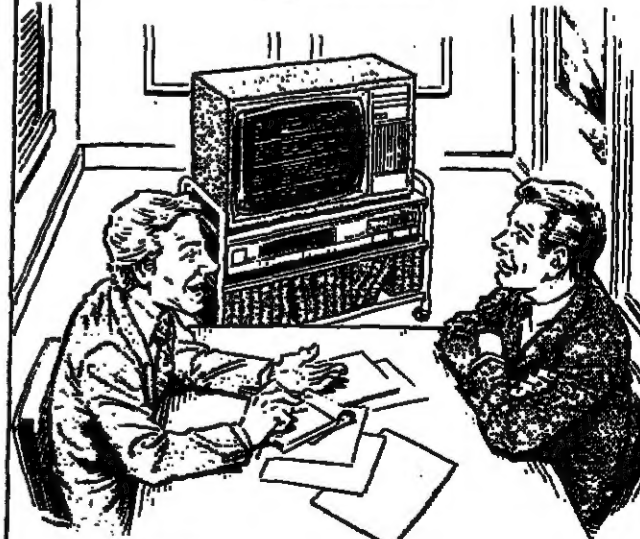
The other two patients received "piggy back" donor hearts to boost their ailing hearts. One patient was not named, the other was Mr Edward Gorham, aged 56, from Kenilworth, west London.

Overseas selling prices

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## Building societies seek power to offer all home-buying services

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Building societies should be allowed to offer a comprehensive home-buying service, including conveyancing, an estate agency, structural surveys and insurance broking, the Building Societies Association said yesterday.

It also wants a greater role for societies in shared ownership schemes, power to hold land for housing development, as well as offering cheque books, credit cards, personal loans and hire purchase on the same terms as other financial institutions.

These are the main proposals in the association's report, *Legislation for Building Societies*, to be submitted to the Government, which has promised legislation on building societies' powers. A consultative document is expected later this year, with legislation in two or three years.

The Government announced last week that solicitors' conveyancing monopoly was to be broken, giving banks, building societies and non-solicitors the right to carry out the work.

The Law Society criticized the association's proposals on conveyancing yesterday, saying there would be potentially serious conflicts of interest and loss to the public of independent and impartial advice.

"If building societies were

able to offer such work, this would inevitably result in a reduction in the freedom of choice available to the consumer, which would result in anti-competitive practices."

Announcing the final proposals, after a year's consultation among building societies, Mr Herbert Walden, the association's chairman, said that he would be disappointed if the Government did not give societies the power to extend their activities in most of the areas mentioned.

The wider activities will greatly strengthen the building societies, and enable them to make a greater contribution to their investors and to the good housing of the nation.

Mr Walden said that they could think of few instances where there might be a conflict of interest, but emphasized that there would be no competition on any borrower to use all services. He said there was probably a case for having the estate agency separate from a society's mainstream activity, in the way that Lloyds Bank was separate from its Black Horse estate agency.

The report says that legislation is needed because the existing framework is cumbersome and prevents societies from responding to customers.

demands and the housing market's needs as much as they would wish.

Societies also want the power to hold the freehold or leasehold reversion of homes being purchased under shared ownership schemes.

Mr Walden said they wanted to play a greater part in shared ownership, in which they had limited involvement through housing associations.

The association says increased powers for societies would reduce the number of organizations and individuals with whom buyers have to deal.

"This could help to reduce the confusion and apprehension which many house buyers feel. There would also be the opportunity to speed up the house-purchase process."

The association emphasizes that staff providing such services would be suitably qualified, and that people must retain the freedom to choose their building society, insurance broker, surveyor and solicitor.

● The report also recommends that societies should have limited scope to make unsecured loans, at present all loans have to be secured on property, and the association envisages societies using this to grant loans for furniture and household goods (Peter Wilson-Smith writes).



New look: Hesta, a three-year-old German shepherd, with Dr Keith Barnett after he restored her sight in one eye by removing a cataract. Photograph: Chris Harris

## Vets restore sight to blind guide dogs

By Thomson Practice, Science Correspondent

The working life of guide dogs and their owners is being extended by improved diagnosis and treatment of animals' eye defects.

Veterinary scientists are successfully tackling the paradox that the dogs most suited to be guide dogs, labradors, golden retrievers and German shepherds are also among those most likely to become blind.

Much of the work is being done by scientists of the animal health trust, a registered charity which produced its annual report yesterday. Last year the trust, which has its

headquarters in Newmarket, Suffolk, examined about 2,000 guide dogs, including about 900 eye problems.

Dr Keith Barnett, head of the trust's unit of comparative ophthalmology, has performed many operations to restore sight to dogs and other animals. He said yesterday: "It is obviously very important to prolong the working life of a guide dog."

"By using differential diagnosis procedures, we can recognize which defects are hereditary and which are not." The address of the Animal Health Trust is Fawcades Hall, Kennett, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 7PN.

## Solicitors win scope to control Law Society

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

Rank-and-file solicitors throughout England and Wales have won a fundamental change in the way they vote at meetings of the Law Society, their professional body, giving them greater control over its decisions.

A motion has been carried at a special general meeting, which for the first time enables voting by proxy.

Mr Stanley Best, chairman of the British Legal Association, a finger group of 3,000 solicitors which called for the decision, said yesterday that the decision was "historic". "For the first time, it gives the hitherto largely silent majority of solicitors the

ability to control what the Law Society does in their name", he added.

Under the new system, decisions will no longer be taken by the few hundred solicitors in and around London who can attend the meetings, he said.

The new voting system is likely to be used for the first time on the controversial issue of the way solicitors are insured compulsorily for negligence.

Solicitors generally want a change in the present system, which they argue penalizes small, partner-intensive firms and involves them in subsidizing the wealthier, larger firms.

## Doctor's trailing in micro revolution

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The National Health Service is lagging behind in using microcomputers in family doctors' surgeries, a Royal College of General Practitioners report says.

Dr Norman Stoddart, ICI computer fellow at the college, said yesterday that about 300 of the 27,000 family doctors use micro computers in the surgery, despite their ability to free doctors to devote more time to patient care.

A survey last year of 50 doctors in the British Computer Society's primary health group showed that most used microcomputers to speed up paper work, rather than to help with diagnosis.

The most common uses were to monitor and issue repeat prescriptions; to improve preventative medicine to call patients in for vaccinations, cervical smears or counselling; and to compile age and sex registers to provide a clearer profile of the doctor's list.

Only four of the 50 used computers for diagnostic purposes.

The college says: "Despite the improvements computers could make in preventing illness, thereby saving health funds, the NHS lags behind in these new developments."

● Paramedical health service staff are seeking increases of up to 60 per cent to restore their pay to the levels of 10 years ago.

Unions representing the 45,000 physiotherapists, radiographers and allied professions have also told the review body that since the Halsbury award of 1974, their pay has declined by between 17 and 40 per cent against the retail price index.

The Government's allowance for pay rises in health authorities' budgets for the next financial year is 3 per cent.

## Computers 'draw too few girls' Teachers' pay rises 'cut cash for books'

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Only 20 per cent of young people in inner London taking computer studies at A level are girls and only 23 per cent of teachers in the subject are women, according to a survey of computer education to be discussed today.

A report by Mr William Stubbs, the education officer of the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA), which will be submitted to the authority's equal opportunities sub-committee proposes three measures to encourage more women teachers in the subject and to attract girls.

It says that computer studies retainer courses should be offered to teachers employed in London and to teachers who have left the ILEA's employ but wish to return.

Foreign students' fees rise

New rises in fees charged to overseas students at universities and polytechnics in England and Wales were announced yesterday by Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education. The recommended fee for an arts degree goes up to £3,150 a year and a science degree to £4,150.

The level of pay rises for teachers was blamed yesterday by Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education, for the low quality of books and equipment in schools.

He told the Commons select committee on education, that the Government planned for "reasonable" amounts to be spent on books and equipment, building maintenance and teacher training. But this depended on teachers' pay rises being kept to 3 per cent this year.

"If the teacher associations succeed in negotiating a pay increase that is more than that for which provision has been made, the extra money has to come from somewhere."

The contribution from the taxpayer and the ratepayer has been already fixed, so the extra money that the teachers have negotiated with their employers for an increase above that for which provision has been made tends to come, alas, year after year, from the maintenance fund and funds put aside for books and equipment.

Teachers' pay awards, the biggest element in the education budget had for many years "raided" cash for books and equipment, he said.

Mr Harry Greenway, Con-

servative MP for Ealing North and a former head teacher, asked why he did not separate spending on pay from spending on books and equipment, thereby forcing authorities to spend money on certain items.

Sir Keith replied that he would be regarded as a potential dictator if he sought such powers.

"Expenditure in real terms per child is at record high levels and the pupil-teacher ratio is at record low levels. But the fact is that there is a limited amount of money, a very large amount of money but limited."

Sir Keith said that his plans to raise standards, outlined in his Sheffield speech last month, would affect primary schools as much as secondary schools. In the former there would be a greater formulation of objectives in terms of skills, knowledge and competence required of each child when moving to a secondary school.

He envisaged that this would involve testing primary school children. On the subject of graded tests for secondary pupils, he said he did not want to suggest that these were a panacea. The benefits of his reforms would be seen after four to five years and full benefits in eight to ten years.

## Bad traders blacklist for shoppers

By Craig Seton

Traders who overcharge their customers or carry out poor work will be identified on a "blacklist" in a consumer magazine to be distributed to 60,000 shoppers by the Consumer Services Department of West Midlands County Council.

The decision was taken after departmental checks revealed extensive overcharging and cheating.

It is believed to be the first time that such a step has been taken by a local authority. West Midlands consumer "watchdogs" receive 27,000 complaints a year and initiate about 2,500 prosecutions, but county councillors decided it was time to shame blacklisted traders.

## PM's son target of peerage Bill

Mr William Hamilton, Labour MP for Fife central, yesterday tabled a bill which, he says, is specifically designed to prevent the Prime Minister's son Mr Mark Thatcher from becoming an hereditary peer.

He will present the Bill to the commons next Thursday.

Under its provisions no hereditary peerages could be created for former Prime Ministers or anybody else within 90 days of its becoming law. Existing hereditary peerages would disappear on the death of the present incumbent.

## Record sales of French wine

The British are drinking more French wine than ever before and sales last year rose by more than 24 million bottles.

In 1983 a record 149 million litres were exported to Britain, 18 million litres more than the previous year, according to Food and Wine from France, the French produce promoter. Champagne sales increased by 28 per cent to 7,600,000 litres.

## Architects free to advertise

Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects will be able to advertise in newspapers, magazines or any other printed publication from March 1. The change was agreed by the RIBA council at the end of last year, and comes after members argued that they were at a disadvantage compared with non-members who may advertise under the rules of the Architects Registration Council.

## Tatchell still attacked and insulted after poll defeat

By Alan Hamilton

A year to the day since they abandoned their traditional Labour loyalties and delivered to the Liberals an unexpected by-election victory, the voters of Bermondsey return to the polls tomorrow.

It is no more than a parish pump contest in Burgess ward to elect a new councillor, and would be entirely unremarkable but for the fact that the local Labour Party secretary in this depressed south London enclave just east of the Elephant and Castle remains Mr Peter Tatchell, upon whose head was heaped most of the blame for Labour's loss of what it regarded as an impregnable fortress last February.

Mr Tatchell spoke to *The Times* yesterday of how he is still the subject of regular personal abuse and even physical attacks.

"Not long ago I had a bottle thrown at me from a car as I waited at a bus stop. My bicycle has had its tyres slashed and been covered with National Front stickers. Last year I got on a train in Birmingham and was physically attacked by a crowd of hoodlums. I had to take refuge in the guard's van."

"It can happen anywhere, even going to the shops round the corner. I do not know who these people are, but if they send me hate mail it often has a swastika attached, so I can guess."

"People who insult me in the street always use the same six or seven words of insult. In



Mr Tatchell: Loyal to Bermondsey

varying order, and they will tell me to get back to Russia, or even back to Australia. It is anxiety-provoking, but more than that it is just damned annoying."

"For some people I seem to have become a left-wing hate figure and a symbolic punching bag", Mr Tatchell said.

He still lives in a council flat in the constituency and says he has strong support from his neighbours, who are quick to report any suspicious callers to his well-locked front door.

As local party secretary, he is involved in tomorrow's ward election but declines to give details of his work, for fear that people will abuse him in the streets and that opposition parties will make a meal of any comment he makes. Similarly, he refuses to say whether he will be returning to Chesterfield to give support to Mr Tony Benn in his by-election fight.

## Teenager 'left girl alive'

Susan Renhard, an art student, was still alive when the teenager accused of her murder left her lying on a footpath in a Peak District beauty spot, a court was told yesterday.

Mr Martin Thomas QC, who is defending Norman Smith, aged 18, added that the jury would have to consider the possibility that someone else came along after Mr Smith left - and that that person was involved in the final killing.

But he told the Nottinghamshire County Court: "On any view his (Mr Smith's) behaviour cannot be excused."

Mr Smith would tell the jury that when he left Miss Renhard she was still breathing, and her eyes were moving.

Earlier, photographs of the dead girl were shown to the jury, and Dr Stephen Jones, a pathologist, listed more than 30 injuries to her body. They were mainly abrasions and bruises to her neck, head, arms, hands and legs.

Mr Smith, of Buxton Road, Castleton, Derbyshire, has denied murdering Miss Renhard at Cave Dale, Castleton, on June 27 last year. At the time, she was taking photographs for a degree course at Manchester Polytechnic.

Miss Renhard, aged 21, who came from West Hagley, West Midlands, was manually strangled, the court heard. The case continues today.

## Jameson withdraws libel action against BBC chief

Mr Derek Jameson, the former Fleet Street editor, yesterday halted his High Court libel action against Mr Aubrey Singer, the managing director of BBC television.

However, Mr Jameson, aged 54, the former editor of the *Daily Star* and *News of the World* is continuing his claim for damages against the BBC over a sketch in the Radio 4 comedy series *Week Ending* in March 1980.

Mr Singer, who was managing director of BBC radio at the time, had told the court that he had no knowledge of the content of the programme. It

was not his responsibility and he had no editorial function. He said he had no reason for any spite or malice against Mr Jameson.

Having heard the evidence, Mr Jameson's counsel, Mr David Eady QC, told Mr Justice Gwynn and the jury that he no longer considered it "right or appropriate" to continue the action against Mr Singer.

The judge asked the jury formally to enter judgment with costs for Mr Singer against Mr Jameson, which they did. He said: "You have taken a very proper course at a very proper

time and Mr Jameson has also done so."

Mr Jameson says that the programme made him out to be "illiterate and stupid" and "like a moron". The BBC denies libel and says the programme was fair comment on a matter of public interest.

Giving evidence on the seventh day of the action Mr Guy Jenkins, a freelance scriptwriter, who wrote about two-thirds of the programme complained of, said he looked on what he wrote as "satire".

Regular listeners knew it was not a news programme and did not expect it to be factual in

any way, he said. Most people knew it was satire.

The author of the sketch, Mr John Langdon, said that the idea for it came from an interview given by Mr Jameson to the Radio 4 *Today* programme earlier that week.

Mr Langdon said: "I believed that he was interested in selling newspapers rather than giving them any literary or cultural merit."

His personal view of the *Daily Star* was that it "pandered to the lowest common denominator in content and price". However he bore Mr Jameson no ill feeling.

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# Most of staff at Cheltenham take offer of £1,000

## GCHQ DISPUTE

Most of those on the staff at GCHQ at Cheltenham accepted the Government's offer that they be paid £1,000 and undertake not to be members of national trade unions.

Mrs Thatcher said during Prime Ministers question time in the Commons.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab) said: coming out against the working people at GCHQ having the right to be in unions is seen as a continuation of the anti-trade union legislation her Government has been passing for some time.

It is bound to give aid and comfort to anti-trade union groups like the pro-Nazi group which is deeply entrenched in the bowels of the Tory party. (Conservative protest). It is bigger than I thought. Will she explain why she and her Government are so passionately fond of free trade unionism in Poland and are definitely going to kill it if they can in this country?

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Flannery must be hard put to it for a question. People from all parts of this House fought against Nazi Socialism - people from every part of the House - and we all resent any implication to the contrary.

The majority of those at GCHQ have accepted the Government offer and a minimal number have refused it.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Stockton, South, SDP): Does she accept that the events of the past few weeks have seriously damaged the interests of GCHQ?

In view of the unprecedented steps the Civil Service unions were prepared to take will she negotiate seriously this week to achieve a settlement which will repair that damage?

Mrs Thatcher: I do not accept that serious damage has been done to GCHQ by this. The serious damage was done with the disruption in 1979 to 1981 and that damaged the security of this country. The existence of the Government case is that the intelligence and security services have always been treated differently and now this security organization has been brought into line with that other treatment.

The majority of people at GCHQ have accepted the option placed before them. Later, on a point of order, Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab) said he had learnt this (Tuesday) morning from a constituent who was a civil servant that instructions had been issued by the Civil Service Department that no



Banks: Department's gross interference

civil servant would be allowed to take a day of annual leave entitlement in order to attend the events of the past few weeks have seriously damaged the interests of GCHQ.

The instructions from the department represents (he said) gross interference in the rights of constituents to approach their MP and the right of access of MPs to their constituents - a matter of important national significance.

He asked the Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, to use his good offices on the ministers concerned to get the instruction withdrawn.

If his constituent had disciplinary action taken against him by attending the lobby, he intended to make representations to the Speaker that it would be a breach of parliamentary privilege.

The Speaker said he could assure Mr Banks that the House would be no different on Thursday from any other day.

## TELECOM BILL

A proposal from Opposition peers to include in the Telecommunications Bill a statutory control over telephone tapping was carried in the House of Lords by 17 votes. Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Advocate, speaking for the Government, said that this would be an inappropriate time to make such a change in the law as a case involving the Government was now before the European Court of Human Rights.

The proposal was in a clause moved by Lord Mishcon, on behalf of the Opposition, when peers resumed the committee stage of the Bill. He said that it sought to ensure there was a statutory provision for the control of the right of the state to indulge in telephone tapping and to put measures into the Bill for the control and punishment of those who carried out unauthorised telephone tapping.

The clause provided for fines of up to £5,000 and up to three years imprisonment for offences under the section.

Lord Mishcon said he could think of nothing more annoying than having one's telephone tapped without proper control. There was no desire to impinge upon the proper use by the state of their necessary powers in certain circumstances. It was, however, a right which must be circumscribed properly otherwise it was an invasion of a sacred right. There was no clarity in the law as to what the right of the state were and what the rights of the citizen were in this area.

Peers had read this morning in The Times of the fact that the Attorney General (Sir Michael Havers) appeared yesterday for the Government in a case which dealt with telephone tapping and the fact that Britain had no proper safeguards and was in breach of the human rights convention.

The Government's case must be that the detailed regulation of interception rested on the proposition that to be effective it must be secret. Inclusion of the new clause in the Bill would give private individuals the right to sue the Secretary of State in a civil suit in the courts: the courts would be obliged to adjudicate and all the relevant information would have to be exposed in evidence.

He suggested that if ever there was a topical moment to carry out this clause it was now.

Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran (LI), Supporting the clause, said that passing it would be a useful and helpful method of enabling the Government to put itself within the European law in relation to human rights.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern said that only yesterday the European Court of Human Rights was hearing oral submissions arising out of the case of Malone and the decision had been postponed for some time. It would seem to the Government that this would not be an appropriate time for the Government to deal with this matter in legislation when there was a case pending that was absolutely germane to it.

Unwarranted telephone tapping was an offence under the provisions of the Bill already. The only question was whether the grant of a warrant by the Secretary of State should be subject to controls which were set out in the statute or should be a matter of the personal administrative responsibility of the Secretary of State for which he was answerable to parliament.

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# Thatcher defends search for other social security savings

## PM's QUESTIONS

The economic situation has improved and in a sustainable way, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during her question time in the Commons.

She also defended the financing of the concession on housing benefit by making economies elsewhere, saying that there would otherwise be a general increase in public expenditure which, sooner or later, would call for a general increase in taxation.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, had criticised the method of financing the small concession by taking benefit from others who needed it.

Mr Patrick Duffy (Sheffield, Attercliffe, Lab) asked her: How does she reconcile the continuing assumption in last week's public expenditure White Paper of nearly three million unemployed, based on social security calculations, with the continuing restraint of public sector capital borrowing taking away defence capital?

What is the sense of depriving town halls and neglecting housing and infrastructure investment when the relevant resources, including the workers, are lying idle?

Mrs Thatcher: Because the resources would have to be taken out of the private sector, where they could be effectively and productively employed, and put into the public sector. The White Paper continued the figures on which we fought the election and received a massive majority.

Mr Kinnock: Did she personally agree to the procedure whereby the concessions made in housing benefit recently announced are to be financed by withdrawing benefits from other groups of needy people?

Mrs Thatcher: We made it clear that this increase on the figure previously announced will be financed by economies elsewhere. That is right. Otherwise there would be a general increase in public expenditure which sooner or later would call for a general increase in taxation or national insurance contributions.

Mr Kinnock: Much of the concession is to be financed by taking housing benefit from people who need it. The remainder is to come from cuts in other systems of benefit to people who have demonstrated their need by qualifying.

If she needs additional revenue to pay those who need such help, why not take it from the very rich? Why is it always the case that she makes the poor pay for the poor and the sick for the sick?

Mrs Thatcher: We are spending something like £3,700m on housing benefit, which is about 80 per cent more than was spent in the lifetime of the last Labour government. He should be the last to complain.

Mr John Farr (Harrow, Lab): Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during her question time in the Commons. She said that the gross domestic product in 1983 increased by the highest amount for the past 10 years and also the greater optimism expressed by many owners of small businesses, and with those two facts which have come to the fore today, will she agree that the economic situation has taken a marked turn for the better? (Renewed Labour laughter).

Mrs Thatcher: The economic situation has improved and has improved in a sustainable way. That is what the Opposition cannot stand.

Mr Ronald Lewis (Carlisle, Lab): Retail prices increases recently published show that more than 1,400 price increases this month alone. Alongside that are the rises in gas and electricity prices fostered by this Government.

With her own wealth, is she conscious that the unemployed and the poor have to shop in the same supermarkets as the wealthy section of society? What will she do about it?

Mrs Thatcher: Under the last Labour Government, prices rose by 120 per cent and the record of this Government is the best for 15 years. Mr James Pansy (Rugby and Kenilworth, C): What advice will Mrs Thatcher give the electorate at Chesterfield at the present time? (Labour laughter).

Mrs Thatcher: There is no difficulty about that: vote Conservative.

## No assurance on warships

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, refused during question time in the Commons to give an assurance (South Down, OUP) on assurance that there would be no question of British warships being engaged in the Persian Gulf in cooperation with American forces.

## Another look at Greenham

The Prime Minister promised during question time to look again at the matter of the Greenham Common women after a Conservative MP had expressed disappointment that no action would be taken to remove them.

Mr John Townsend (Bridlington, C) said: There will be disappointment at the statement by the Home Secretary that no action will be taken to remove the Greenham

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## MP's complaint rejected

A suggestion that the Government was attempting to confer credibility, legitimacy and dignity on terrorist leaders was rejected by the Prime Minister.

Mr Ian Lloyd (Havant, C): During Prime Minister's questions, asked: Is it Government policy to attempt to confer credibility, legitimacy and dignity on terrorist leaders with the blood of thousands on their hands, by arranging for them to be received by the Foreign Secretary and by offers of scholarships to those they purport to represent? I refer to Mr Sam Nufuma.

Mrs Thatcher: The Foreign Secretary would have heard that. Mr Lloyd knows full well that Government policy towards terrorism is that they are totally and absolutely against the use of violence.

Parliament Today Commons (2.30): Debates on Opposition motions on problems of the young unemployed and on care of the elderly. Lords (2.30): Debate on industry.

From April 1, with the former Foreign Secretary in the chair, all that changes.

The trustees selected, at Lord Carrington's instigation, carry a strong pro-business lobby. Among them are Lord Barnett, the former Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Sir Terence Conran and Mr Andrew Knight, the editor of The Economist.

"It struck me that we really needed as trustees people who really knew about finance. We wanted people who cared about the arts but could help us on the financial side as well."

"The legacy of it having been run by the Government is that it is very badly under-funded. I think it is disgraceful that the museum has to shut on Fridays. I've seen people queueing to get in", Lord Carrington said.

The V&A's problems all come down to one thing: money. It is short of £1m in the present financial year to maintain its crumbling building. To reopen on Fridays would cost a further £250,000. A scheme to continue to widen the main entrance to make it more inviting is being postponed because it has run out of funds.

Will it then start to charge for admission, as the National Maritime Museum intends to do? Lord Carrington hedged on this point: "The trustees would have to look at it, but the sine qua non at the moment is that the Government would keep all the money."

Even if, as seems likely, the Government is about to rule that revenue from museum admission fees will remain with the museum authorities, there is an underlying fear that ticket fees and extra income from any other source would eventually be used as an excuse to cut the present level of museum grants.

One important source of income ought to be industry, but the museum has had to accept that it will find it difficult to compete for private sponsorship with the performing arts.

"It is one thing to pay something towards a performance at Covent Garden, it is another to help out with £2m for the drains at the V&A. The glamour somehow isn't there", Lord Carrington said.

Whatever the future holds, the V&A trustees have come to the conclusion that they should not, as the Government has suggested, take on the running of Kenwood House in Hampstead when the Greater London Council, which runs it at the moment, is abolished.

"I think we already have

## SCOTLAND

Shipping services to the Scottish islands are to get subsidies of £13,350,000 in 1984-85, Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, announced in a statement to the Commons. This was an increase of 9.9 per cent over estimated expenditure on services in the current year, he said.

Mr Younger said: I propose to give deficit grants of £7.2m to Caledonian MacBrayne and of £6,000,000 to the Orkney Islands Shipping Company. These grants will limit the net costs to the Government of the companies to increase their fares to approximately 3 per cent overall for the year.

I propose also to increase support offered to P & O and to encourage bulk shipping companies with whom I have undertakings, to allow them to continue to rebate the fares and charges on their services. The rebates are estimated at £3.65m in the case of P & O and £1.6m in the case of the bulk shippers.

In total, Government revenue support in 1984-85 will amount to some £13.35m, an increase of 9.9 per cent over the current financial year.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall North, Lab): Those figures, of which every member of the Cabinet should feel ashamed, illustrate the immense human misery caused by continued mass unemployment.

Many in their forties and onwards find it increasingly difficult even to be considered for a job and face the prospect of 10 or 15 years on the dole before becoming pensioners. Is this the sort of future the Tories promised in 1979 and 1983?

Mr King said all MPs were aware of the human tragedy contained in the figures. Most also recognized, however, that this serious problem, shared by all western countries, was not best met by organizing but by determination to make Britain competitive again and to get improved growth rate.

It has been announced today (he said) that the 1983 growth rate was the fastest in the last decade.

Sir Dudley Smith (Warwick and Leamington, C): The improvement in the economy is expected in both quarters. This underlines the good sense of the Government's policies.

Mr King: We have to become competitive to give us a better chance to improve our growth rate. For the third quarter of last year, for the first time for four years, there was an increase in the numbers in employment. That is an important sign to ensuring more jobs for all our people.

Mrs Angela Rumbold (Mitcham and Morden, C): How many people each day do get a job?

Mr King: It is significant that seven million people got new jobs last year, a figure not often appreciated. There is much greater turnover and more people getting new jobs. On our estimates there were 250,000

new jobs in the service sector in the past year.

Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on employment, said well over three million were out of work and that the Treasury had told the Government that there would not be any change in 1984.

Who does Mr King think (he asked) is responsible for this terrible situation? The Government? If not, after nearly five years of Tory policies, who is to blame?

Mr King replied among Labour interruptions: It would be difficult to exonerate the Opposition from

blame. Lack of competitiveness of British industry since the war is to blame. Had we held the same share of our markets of ten years ago there would be 1,500,000 more at work.

He did not expect the figure to stay stubbornly above three million. Some forecasters suggested that during the year there might be a reduction.

Underfunded: The Victoria and Albert Museum, completed in 1909, and its chairman, Lord Carrington, who hopes to modernize it with sponsorship from industry.

enough on our hands. If the trustees of Kenwood said they wanted us to run it and there was no alternative, that might be a different matter."

Lord Carrington hopes that industry will enable the V&A to modernize its galleries, in return for carrying the sponsor's name on the result.

He is adamant that Sir Roy Strong, the museum's director, will be proven wrong in his recent pronouncement that financial restraints would kill the large-scale exhibitions

# Government defeated over telephone tapping

## Higher subsidy for island shipping

### efficiency Caledonian MacBrayne's fares should be related to costs incurred.

This adds weight to the practical objections to RET. Besides offering no encouragement to efficient operation it would, by stimulating demand, itself increase the need for new investment in shipping capacity. Since the subsidy requirement would be calculated automatically by reference to a formula unrelated to shipping costs, that requirement could change considerably from one year to the next. Sudden increases in subsidy could only be achieved at the expense of other services.

It is however important to have a fares system that is clearly understood. P & O and the bulk shippers are private sector operators who fix their fares and charges on a commercial basis.

In the case of Caledonian MacBrayne the Monopolies and Mergers Commission noted the company's policy that fares on one route should be comparable with those on another, and that a standard fare scale should be adopted consisting of three elements - pier dues, toll charges (reflecting the cost of loading), and distance charges.

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which have featured prominently since the 1960s. "We will jolly well have to raise the money for those. Given the money the museum has had, I think Roy Strong and his staff have done pretty well. But no one is more aware than Roy Strong that given a bit more money, you could transform the V&A."

This year the V&A, which attracts about 1,800,000 visitors each year, will receive £11.37m in government grants, a sum exceeded only by

## Scotland is part of Britain

### TOURISM

Scotland had to be vigorously promoted overseas, Mr Mackay, Secretary of State for Scotland, said in the Commons when moving the second reading of the Tourism (Overseas Promotion) (Scotland) Bill which extends the powers of the Scottish Tourist Board.

He said that to avoid duplication between the STB and British Tourist Authority, the STB would be able to promote Scotland overseas only with the consent of the Secretary of State who, before giving or withholding consent, would consult the BTA. This did not represent a BTA veto. It would ensure that the STB's overseas activities complemented BTA's promotions.

Some MPs wished to break Britain apart in the tourist industry, just as they wished to do in other industries and politically. This policy in tourism (he said) would be damaging and costly.

Mr James Craigie, an Opposition spokesman on Scotland, said he wanted to be sure that the BTA was not seeking to ease out of the commitment to overseas promotion of Scotland's behalf.

Mr King said it was undesirable that the BTA chairman should also be the chairman of the English Tourist Board. This was bad for Britain and not good for England, either.

What was expected of the STB was that more people throughout the world would be induced to visit Scotland and be facilitated to do so by direct entry and not in the main by the over-congested, labyrinthine corridors of Heathrow airport.

The Bill was read a second time and later passed its remaining stages.

Mr David Knox (Staffordshire, Moorlands, C): That is a vindication of the Government's step by step approach to industrial relations reform. Does the Government intend to proceed cautiously in this sphere?

Mr Gummer: He is right. The Government's arguments are serious, sensible and well founded: those of the Opposition are conservative and reactionary.

Mr John Evans, an Opposition spokesman on employment, most of the days lost in industrial disputes in the period mentioned were unofficial and settled within two or three days by the intervention of full-time trade union officers.

There is a fear that the Trade Union Bill before the House will prevent trade union officers intervening in unofficial strikes and make things worse.

Mr Gummer: The figures do not exist that would prove or disprove that. But there is no widespread fear of that kind. It is a fear invented by the Opposition and pressed hard.

## Fewest disputes for 10 years

Some 3.6 million working days were lost through stoppages due to industrial disputes in the year ending December 31, 1983, the lowest annual total since 1967 apart from 1976. Mr Selwyn Gummer, Minister of State for Employment, said during Commons questions. These were provisional figures, he told MPs.

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## Computer-linked passport feared as threat to civil liberty

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Passports which can be read by computers are seen as one of the threats to individual freedom that the National Council for Civil Liberties aims to tackle up to the year 2000.

Mr Larry Gostin, general secretary of the council, which today celebrates its fiftieth anniversary, said yesterday that the Government had accepted recommendations that the new system should be introduced.

The International Aviation Commission had recommended their use and the EEC had backed them as a good idea, he said.

The computer would be able to retrieve information on their holders from immigration, the police and security files. But the citizen would have no idea what the information was or whether it was relevant, accurate or current.

The Data Protection Bill, now before Parliament, would give no protection to individuals subject to such scrutiny. Mr Gostin forecast that such a system would lead to a situation similar to that expressed by the introduction of plastic national insurance cards.

The council is also concerned about a long-term threat to individuals' and groups' right to assemble, express opinions and to disseminate information

in the public interest, posed by the security and secrecy surrounding nuclear power and weaponry.

Other priorities to be announced by the council today as part of its Liberty Campaign, are to reverse the drift into "law and order society", and to fight for protection from arbitrary arrest and unnecessary detention.

Among the measures now before Parliament concerning the council are the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill, the Data Protection Bill, the Prevention of Terrorism Bill, originally introduced as an emergency measure, and the Telecommunications Bill, which allows wire-tapping on the Home Secretary's warrant.

Mr Gostin said that the NCCL's liberty campaign would bring together a broad alliance of people from across the political and social spectrum. The campaign would include

the formation of an all-party parliamentary group.

About 1,000 people had signed the NCCL Charter of Civil Rights and Liberties on which the campaign is based. They include 69 MPs and MEPs from all political parties, Mr Neil Kinnock, Mr David Steele and Dr David Owen, Lord Scarman, Lord Elwyn-Jones, and Lord Gardiner have also signed it.

Action by the council will include monitoring and supporting research into the issue of search warrants and assisting victims of unlawful searches to obtain compensation and ensure the destruction of records on them.

The council will represent those who have made face confessions and monitor procedures set out in the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill as implemented at police stations. It will also support a private member's Bill to reduce the length of remand in custody to that allowed by the Scottish system: 40 days for summary offences and 110 days for indictable offences.

A Bill to provide for statutory compensation for wrongful conviction will be drafted by the council and published.

## Marchais and his reluctant converts



Loss leader: M Marchais, giving his party a specifically French identity

## Drift back to Moscow after electoral humiliation

In the third of four articles on the decline of Eurocommunism, Edward Mortimer examines the fluctuating fortunes of the French Communist Party.



The conversion of the French Communist Party (PCF) to Eurocommunism was sudden, spectacular and never wholly convincing. Until the autumn of 1975, the party had supported Soviet efforts to convene a conference of European Communist parties which would reaffirm the essential unity of the international Communist movement, and had expressed solidarity with the Portuguese party, which the Italian and Spanish Communists were criticizing for its disregard of election results and attempt to gain power through the armed forces.

Then, in November, 1975, the PCF suddenly aligned itself with the Italians. The two parties published a joint statement stressing a general "concordance of solutions" for situations with a "common capitalist character". The PCF joined the "Eurocommunists" who opposed the idea of a unified world communist strategy, and in January, 1976, its leader, M Georges Marchais, announced that his party would drop the term "dictatorship of the proletariat".

He also made it clear that French Communists disagreed radically with the Soviet Union about the nature of "socialist democracy". These positions were ratified by a party congress the next month, in which M Marchais stayed away from the congress of the Soviet party - an unprecedented gesture of disrespect. When the conference of European Communist parties finally met in June, 1976, M Marchais criticized the Soviet party to its face, and said he would not attend any further gatherings of this sort.

On paper, this remains true even if, in France as elsewhere, the word "Eurocommunism" has now fallen out of use. In an interview with *The Times* last month, M Pierre Juquin, the leading intellectual in the party's bureau politique, declared that the party had broken completely with the past "rejected the dictatorship of the proletariat, rejected the Soviet model, rejected Marxism-Leninism, rejected proletarian internationalism".

Yet undoubtedly since 1977, and especially since 1979, its criticisms of the Soviet Union have been milder and less frequent than they were in the mid-1970s and, against the strongly anticommunist climate now prevailing in France, the PCF can often be heard leaping

to Moscow's defence. It backed Moscow over the invasion of Afghanistan and (being by then under the constraint of Cabinet solidarity) gave only grudging support to the French Socialist-led governments' criticisms of martial law in Poland.

This toning down of criticism held true despite the PCF's reservations about President Brezhnev's policies (reservations which it is also displaying for the new party leader, Mr Konstantin Chernenko, who is believed to be unenthusiastic about the PCF's participation in France's Socialist Government).

But the PCF's Eurocommunism was never all that "Euro", anyway, in the sense that it did not mean convergence on a common European position. Rather, it took the form of an attempt to reinforce the party's specifically French identity - and that, on many issues, meant taking positions opposite to those of its Italian and Spanish counterparts. In particular, the PCF is opposed to any supra-national development of the European Community, and strongly opposed also to Spanish membership of it. As one would-be French Eurocommunist (Professor Jean Elieinstein) has pointed out, "gallo-communism" would be a better word to describe this attitude.

As is well known, the PCF lost badly in the 1981 elections, and had to accept a small share of power as a favour from its hated Socialist rivals. There is so far no convincing sign of a recovery, as the party now has to share the blame for the left-wing Government's shortcomings. Whether it would have done better with less Eurocommunism, or more, remains a very open question, behind the closed doors of the party leadership.

Tomorrow: Greece

## Pravda reaffirms Chernenko's devotion to peace

From Richard Owen, Moscow

*Pravda* yesterday signalled Mr Chernenko's desire for improved relations with the United States and said a return to détente would have a "positive effect on the entire international situation".

A front-page editorial said that under Mr Chernenko Russia would be "profoundly committed to peace". It made no mention of Soviet pre-conditions for a return to the Geneva talks. At the same time, *Pravda* said, Moscow had to strengthen its defences in the face of "aggressive imperialism".

Writing in *Red Star*, the armed forces paper, Marshal Kulikov said Moscow had to take a clear and explicit stand against reckless adventurist actions by the aggressive forces of imperialism adding that this had been most forcefully reaffirmed at the Central Committee meeting which elected Mr Chernenko party leader 10 days ago.

Diplomats said a struggle between Kremlin doves and hawks had emerged since President Andropov died, with each side using Soviet jargon to emphasize either the dangers of imperialism or the need for rapprochement with Washington. Often there were elements of both positions in the same speech, diplomats noted.

Mr Chernenko himself spoke of a return to peaceful coexistence as well as the need for strong defences against hotheaded military adventurism when he appeared on Red Square. He seemed to lay stress on détente however - the policy associated with Mr Brezhnev, his mentor - an impression strengthened when he told Vice President Bush he wanted a more constructive relationship with America.

*Pravda* said yesterday the deployment of cruise and Pershing missiles in Europe last autumn had complicated the situation. But it avoided re-iteration and did not repeat Mr Andropov's demand for Nato to withdraw the missiles before Moscow would consider returning to Geneva. Diplomats said the omission appeared to suggest that Mr Chernenko was keeping his options open. He is expected to define his position in a speech on the eve of the Supreme Soviet elections next week.

An article in *Sovetskaya Rossiya* yesterday by the deputy director of Tass said Moscow favoured "honest, equitable and mutually advantageous cooperation" with the United States.

Mr Gennady Shishkin welcomed President Reagan's call for dialogue but said good intentions had to be substantiated by concrete deeds, including a display of willingness to give up the deployment of medium-range missiles on the very doorstep of the Soviet Union. Diplomats said the phrase could refer either to missile withdrawals or to a freeze at present deployment levels.

Mr Shishkin said Mrs Thatcher - described as Washington's firmest supporter - had changed her views on relations with Moscow, but it would be premature to assume that the West was taking a sensible and realistic approach.

The Soviet press has paid unusual homage to the Brezhnev era - including détente - over the past few days, emphasizing the policies laid down by the 26th party congress three years ago rather than the Andropov era. *Pravda* yesterday carried a long back page article devoted to Mr Aleksei Kosygin, Mr Brezhnev's partner and prime minister. It marked the eightieth anniversary of Mr Kosygin's birth, not hitherto a major event in the Soviet calendar.

Senator William Cohen of Maine left Moscow this week after talks with officials saying he sensed a new willingness to discuss arms control. Mr Cohen, a Republican, supports Mr Reagan's "build down" proposal of strategic missiles under which the superpowers would dismantle two warheads for every new one deployed.

More headline Soviet speeches yesterday included an attack on "imperialist intelligence services" by General Viktor Chebrikov, head of the KGB. In an address to electors at Sukhumi in Georgia, published in *Pravda* General Chebrikov said the KGB had unmasked scores of agents in recent years. In another address on the West about Russia's new readiness to discuss nuclear weapons in Europe were devoid of meaning. Tass assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, for indicating that Nato deployments would continue, and unlike *Pravda* Tass specifically referred to Mr Andropov's demand that Nato should show "readiness to return to the situation which existed prior to the deployment of cruise and Pershing 2".

Tass said the Western media were spreading rumours invented by themselves about a new Soviet willingness to negotiate, but the Soviet position had not changed. Russia remained ready for "a fair dialogue and fair talks".

## Russians scorn British chemical war offer

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Hopes that the Soviet Union would agree to Britain's new proposals for verifying compliance with a treaty banning chemical weapons proved illusory yesterday when Mr Viktor Issaev, the Soviet delegate described them as in the category of "maximalist unrealistic demands".

"Even with a microscope", he told the 40-nation disarmament conference, "one would not be able to discover in that [British] document any signs of readiness for compromise". He said the procedures set out in

the proposals for inspection by challenge were simply a repetition of "the whole number of tough demands already many times rejected".

While the Soviet Union accepted the principle of challenge inspection, it was adamant that in practice this could be on a voluntary basis only, with the challenged state having the right to refuse the Western concept of "intrusive" inspection being mandatory - with continued refusal being an issue for the UN Security Council.

## Barracks and prison hit in Uganda rebel raid

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi

The National Resistance Army (NRA), which is led by a former Ugandan Defence Minister, Mr Yoweri Museveni, has claimed responsibility for guerrilla attacks on the town of Masindi, 140 miles north of Kampala.

The Ugandan Defence Ministry announced late on Monday that dissident elements had attacked the army and police barracks and the prison in Masindi, but had been repulsed. The Ministry gave no details of casualties.

An anonymous NRA spokesman yesterday said 178 soldiers, 27 police and 18 prison warders were killed, as well as five NRA guerrillas. The attackers stole large quantities of arms and ammunition, he said.

Road blocks were operating have got work, they depend on local peasants.

Until recently Zimbabwe had by and large escaped the suffering inflicted by the drought on Mozambique, where between 40,000 and 200,000 people died in the second half of last year.

However, Zimbabweans are now also dying of malnutrition. In spite of a US pledge last week of \$10.9m (£7m) emergency food aid, prospects are grim.

In reports from the district of Rushinga, the Ziana news agency quoted officials as saying that between five and seven Mozambicans were dying at a squatter camp every day.

round Kampala yesterday and no buses from Masindi arrived there. There were rumours in the capital that some soldiers had joined the guerrilla attack.

NRA guerrillas have been operating for nearly three years in areas between Masindi and Kampala. But in the past year they have been driven back by the Ugandan Army, and Ugandan leaders had said the guerrillas were no longer a problem.

Significantly, however, the Defence Ministry announcement said the Masindi attacks were designed to show that the dissidents had the capability to mount an offensive. Masindi has a large army barracks and this is the first time the NRA is known to have carried out an operation in that area.

## Murderer in court over virus threat

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

A man serving a life sentence in Townsville's Stuart Jail for murder was yesterday charged with extortion over the threat made last month to spread foot and mouth disease in Queensland.

Peter Vivian Wardrop, aged 37, appeared before Townsville magistrates in north Queensland. He faced four charges, all relating to sending letters containing threats to cause "deprivation, particularly economic deprivation, to the livestock industry in Queensland by releasing foot and mouth virus if the Queensland State Government did not comply with his demands for prison reform".

The letters, the charges alleged, threatened the release of the virus if the state did not comply with the demands within 12 weeks from the date of mailing. Wardrop, who represented himself, was not asked to plead and was remanded until March 16.

cross-examined by Mr Njonjo's counsel, Mr William Deverill, a Nairobi lawyer, who has asked unsuccessfully for an indication of what kind of evidence is to be introduced. He said he finds it hard to conduct Mr Njonjo's case without such information.

It is not known how long the inquiry will continue. It sits daily from Tuesday to Friday, adjourning each day about 1pm. It attracts a steady audience and each day's proceedings are reported verbatim in the local newspapers.

Mr Njonjo himself is closely searched before entering the chamber, as are counsel and spectators.

So far, a succession of police, customs, immigration and airline officials have given evidence. One said that Mr Njonjo was not charged for his excess baggage when flying by Kenya Airways. Other evidence has suggested that he had more than one passport in use at a time, and that there were no immigration stamps to mark some of his journeys abroad.

## Kenya judges examine ex-minister's conduct

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Wearing his customary three-piece suit with a rosebud buttonhole, Mr Charles Njonjo, Kenya's former Minister for Constitutional Affairs, this week took his seat in a chamber of the Parliament building for the seventh week of a judicial inquiry into his conduct as a minister.

It was ordered by President Moi last year after he had caused surprise by announcing that unnamed foreign powers were grooming a Kenyan to become president in his place. MPs demanded that the "traitor" be named.

Mr Njonjo strongly denied any abuse of his position or any disloyalty to President Moi, but he resigned his parliamentary seat and was suspended from the Cabinet by Mr Moi.

For the past six weeks, three High Court judges, headed by Mr Justice Cecil Miller, have been hearing evidence from a succession of witnesses who have told how Mr Njonjo was friendly with a rich Indonesian family which maintained a safari camp in Kenya; how he travelled frequently between Kenya and London and how he was issued with several diplomatic passports.

Evidence has also been given that he asked the immigration authorities on several occasions to issue visas for South Africans (normally barred from Kenya) to visit his country.

Witnesses have included the former Commissioner of Police, Mr Ben Githi, who was retired after an abortive coup attempt in 1982. Making his first public appearance since then, he denied suggestions that either he or Mr Njonjo were linked with the unsuccessful mercenary attempt to overthrow the Seychelles Government in 1981.

Evidence is led by the counsel for the commission, Mr Lee Muthoga, and witnesses are



Mr Njonjo: Had several diplomatic passports.

## A dying source of stamps and solace

The Post Office has decided that about a thousand sub-post offices must close as part of a cost-effective exercise. *Patriella Clough reports.*

It would be difficult for the people in the simple, grey-washed terrace houses around Lindhurst Road in Worthing, West Sussex, to imagine life without Mr Wyn Lloyd behind the counter in the little sub-post office.

Officially he is the dispenser of their modest pensions and unemployment pay, the source of their stamps and dachshunds' licences, and the person who takes in their parcels and savings. Unofficially he asks after their health if they have not been in for a bit, lends a sympathetic ear for the lonely, and is the general adviser on bureaucratic affairs to the confused.

Yet Mr Lloyd, who is 46, may not be sitting much longer behind the banks of greeting cards and wrapping paper, with the bags of coins at his feet and the rubber stamps at his elbow.

Post Office rules state that there should not be less than a mile between two post offices and this will be applied more strictly in future. Mr Lloyd's is one of three within a mile and the nearest is a main post office.

Mr Lloyd says that it is not just a post office but a kind of service to the local community. "Some old people have no-one but the milkman and myself to talk to all week. It is someone to ask them how they are, to chat away to, to give advice about forms and things they do not understand."

But staff morale has slipped since the new regime was introduced "especially, perhaps, because of the return of some trainees for a second, or even a third sentence". That, the report says, undermined to some extent the initial belief in its deterrent effect.

Although there is no mention of "bull" like polishing boots, part of recruit training in some national service units, the tempo at Send is described as brisk, disciplined and regimented, as specified in the Prison Department guide-lines.

But they allow little flexibility for staff to respond to individual boys' needs and that reduced job satisfaction, the report says. Nevertheless, it finds that staff morale is reasonably good.

The report criticizes a lack of dressing dignity "to preserve human dignity" when boys were admitted: the trainees had to stand on bare tiles; and there was nothing for them to read while waiting, sometimes for two hours.

The Prison Department has acted on the report's suggestion that remedial action be taken.

The report concluded "overall that staff at Send has achieved a fair balance, treating the trainees with tact, humanity, and understanding, while commanding a healthy respect from them".

Mr Lloyd had always wanted to be a sub-postmaster from the day he saw a former schoolmate working at a counter. After 17 years it is still the only job he wants to do. However, he has his problems.

First the Post Office "stole our business" by collecting mail directly from the local hospital and offices. Instead of four or five bags of mail piled up in the office, every evening there are now only one or two - and some £900 less coming in each year as a result.

Then the Post Office arranged for people to draw benefits monthly or by cheque and the number of pensions - "our bread and butter" - fell by a third. But the overheads stay the same. "It is our wages that keep coming down", he says.

Mr Lloyd is in favour of the Post Office's efforts to get more business. He feels the gas, electricity and water authorities and the local council could give them more business.

On March 4 about 420 representatives of the sub-postmasters will hold a conference to discuss whether to fight the closure plan or simply fight for adequate compensation for those affected.

Meanwhile, four customers have already offered to start up a petition for Mr Lloyd.

Mr Lloyd refuses to worry. "I haven't thought what I would do. I could not survive on just selling stationery, the income is negligible, and there is so much unemployment here. I really don't know what I would do."



Threatened species: Mr Wyn Lloyd faces the prospect of closure with dismay. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

## Poole's industry makes it grow faster

By David Walker, Social Policy Correspondent

Forget the Peterborough effect and the magic of Milton Keynes. The fastest growing town is Poole in Dorset, which was awarded its charter in 1248.

According to updated figures based on the 1981 census, the town's population grew by nearly 20 per cent during the 1970s. Poole has a population of 123,000 and could, within a decade, overtake neighbouring Bournemouth, a resort in decline.

Poole's growth is not due to a huge advertising budget. It spends £17,500 a year on self-promotion.

Nor has Poole grown, as with some south coast towns, because of an influx of elderly people retiring to the sun and the sea. "No, it's no cosmic peristalsis," Mr Ian Andrews, the council's chief executive, says. About 19 per cent of Poole's inhabitants are over the age of 65, against a national figure of 15 per cent. In

comparison, Bournemouth has a figure of 26 per cent, and in resorts such as Bexhill pensioners form the majority.

Poole has grown because industry and commerce moved into the seaside town like what they found (yachts, the Dorset hinterland of Thomas Hardy, a company called force) of the town's employers sounds recession proof: Barclays International, Plessey telecommunications and weapons systems, and Ryvita biscuits, Fizzell's Insurance.

The old port itself has enjoyed a renaissance. Poole, which boasts one of the largest natural harbours in the world, is rated in the top dozen British ports, compared with sixty-eight 14 years ago. A freight line runs four daily sailings to Cherbourg, Poole's twin town, which locals note is closer than London.

Mr Andrews says that if natural forces had prevailed,

Poole would have gone the way of other south coast towns and become a mere retirement centre. The Conservative council, however, has encouraged manufacturing industry through the provision of factory sites and the building of mainly private housing suitable for younger people.

"We have always wanted a balanced community," Mr Austen Layard, Tory chairman of the policy committee, says.

Poole's growth spurt is not over. Finance permitting, the council wants to provide the infrastructure for a large new industrial estate and see a 500-acre site at Canford Heath developed for housing. "Firms are still knocking at our door, wanting to come," Mr Andrews says.

"We have kept a low profile and not gone in for advertising our charms because we simply have not enough sites to satisfy demand."



## Saudi unease at policy of US adds weight to Prince's British visit

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Unease in Riyadh over American policy in Lebanon and elsewhere in the Middle East, is lending importance to the arrival here today of Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz al Saud, crown prince of Saudi Arabia and the second most powerful figure in that Gulf kingdom.

He comes for a three-day official visit at a time when President Reagan's failure to make a stand over Israeli settlements on the West Bank and now the intensive shelling by American warships of the hills around Beirut, have made King Fahd anxious to distance himself from Washington.

Three Cabinet ministers, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Mr Michael Heseltine and Mr Norman Tebbit, have been to Riyadh within the last month. Prince Abdullah, younger brother (by three years) of King Fahd, has chosen Britain for his first visit outside the Arab world since becoming Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister two years ago.

This is being seen in Whitehall as something of a fillip for Britain's Middle East policies, particularly given Saudi Arabia's influential role in the three issues - Lebanon, the Arab-Israeli dispute and the Gulf War - which are dividing

the Middle East and much of the world outside.

The Crown Prince is 60 this year and was last here in 1973 when, as commander of the Saudi National Guard, he was a guest of Lord Carrington, then Defence Secretary. The National Guard still comes under his control.

No longer is one likely to be thrown down the steps by mentioning *Death of a Princess* inside the Foreign Office. The two governments, for the time being anyway, see eye to eye on a number of issues - including oil pricing.

What passes for a recession in Saudi Arabia, has recently forced Fahd to draw on his country's \$100,000m (£69,444m) reserves. But government spending has been adjusted accordingly and the Saudi policy of investing national wealth inside the country instead of abroad, has helped to ensure that the discontented remain in a minority.

Only 4 per cent of the population are Shia Muslims, and Islamic fundamentalists could hardly accuse teetotal Riyadh, guardian of the holy places, of turning its back on the Koran.

Several years ago Prince Abdullah felt obliged to pledge

his loyalty to his brothers, King Khalid and the then Crown Prince Fahd - after Western press reports had referred to family feuding over the succession. But no real evidence emerged.

More menacing in Saudi eyes is the spectre of a powerful revolutionary Iran, able and willing to upset the delicate power balance in the Gulf.

The Anglo-Saudi relationship is not without its black spots, however. Ministers will be under pressure to raise with the Crown Prince a number of consular matters - including the case of Mr Keith Carmichael whose local business collapsed with alleged debts of £1m three years ago and who has been lying injured in a crowded Saudi jail ever since.

A Foreign Official said last night that a report on the collapse of Mr Carmichael's business had recently been passed by Saudi authorities to the governor of Riyadh who was reviewing it.

Mr Carmichael's plight was raised by Sir Geoffrey Howe when he was in Riyadh last month, since then the British Embassy had kept in close touch with developments. It is hoped that the governor's review will lead to an early solution.

## Israel sure Druze will keep out the gunmen

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The Druze militia have told Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, that they will not allow Palestinian gunmen to establish themselves in any positions on Lebanese territory, he said in Brussels yesterday.

He said he had contacts with all the Lebanese communities. Israel's sole aim in remaining in southern Lebanon and its present bombing raids was to protect its northern borders.

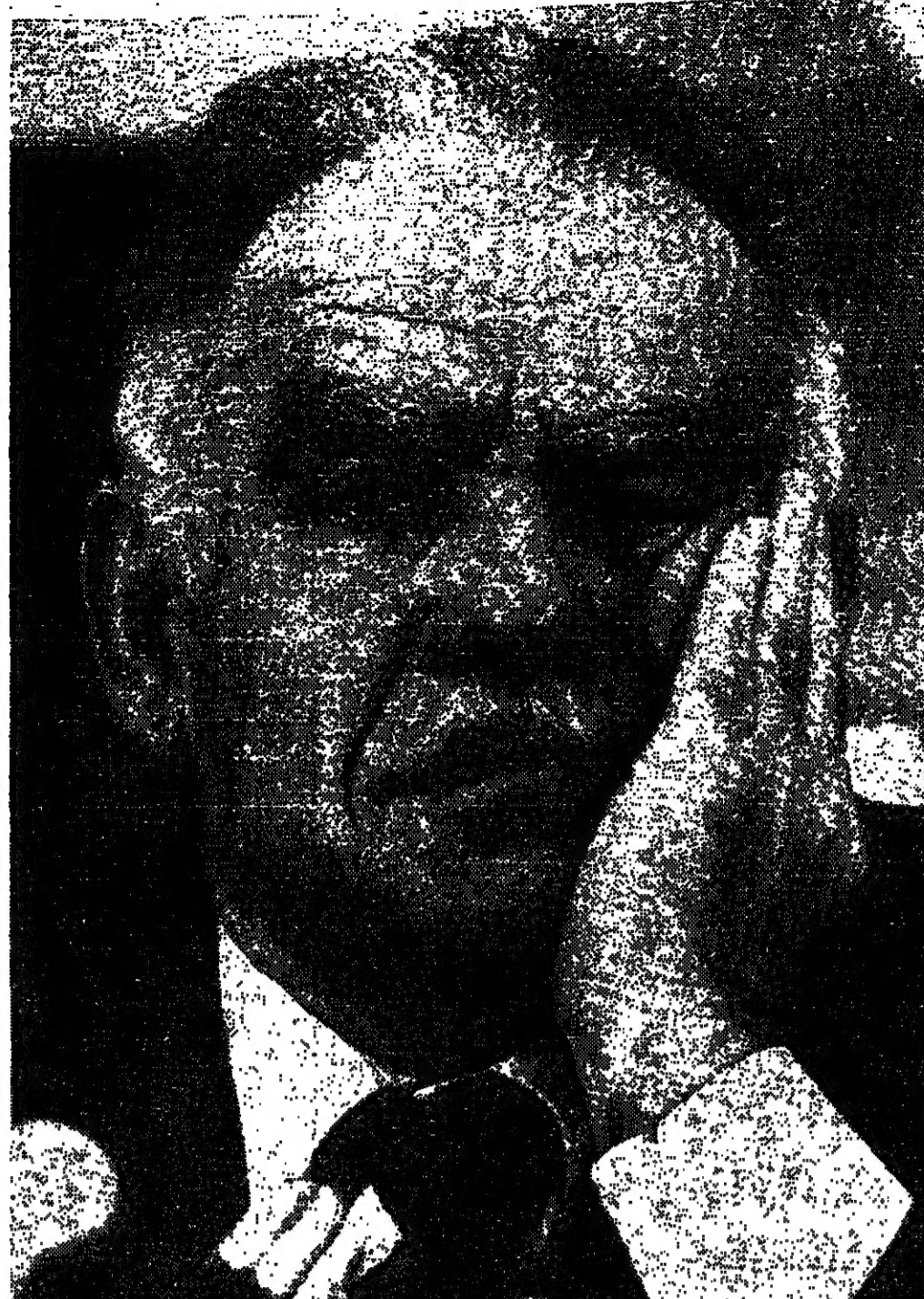
Israel would not withdraw from Lebanon until the border was secure. He had hoped the Lebanese army would have been able to do this, but it was not, "then we could come up with another Lebanese force which might be able to safeguard the interests of the population".

The Israeli leader ruled out the idea of an American or UN force moving into southern Lebanon. "We do not believe that the US can play any role in the south of Lebanon".

As to the UN, Israeli experience had shown that its troops could act as a buffer only if the armies on either side had agreed to stop fighting. "The UN cannot guarantee our frontier against terrorism".

Israeli tactics were solely directed against ending terrorism inside Israel. Patrolling by Israeli troops north of the Awaril river did not mean the Army intended to move north.

Mr Shamir was in Brussels to talk to EEC foreign ministers about the effects of Spanish entry on trade with Israel. He was concerned that enlargement of the Community would do considerable harm to exports of fruit and vegetables. He agreed to more talks.



Worried man: Mr Shamir pondering problems

## Nicaragua brings poll forward to November

Managua (AP) - Nicaragua's Sandinista Government announced elections on November 4 to vote in a President, Vice-President and 90 members of a constituent assembly. Both officials will take office on January 10, 1985 and serve six-year terms.

Thousands of Nicaraguans crowded the Plaza of the Revolution to hear leaders of the left-wing government make the long-awaited announcement. Polling in 1985 had been expected.

A woman runner bailed over a torch carried into the plaza by a group of runners to commemorate the guerrilla struggle of Augusto César Sandino, killed 50 years ago.

## Ship stopped in sub search

Karlshamn (AFP) - Sweden refused permission to a Soviet cargo vessel the Volgograd, to enter the port of Karlshamn where military units have spent the past 13 days searching for an unidentified submarine.

A submarine could easily escape undetected in the wake of a merchant ship, a Defence Ministry spokesman said.

## Tribal wooing

Islamabad (Reuters) - President Babrak Karmal of Afghanistan has urged his Communist Party to strengthen the country's tribes, the "first line of defence against imperialism". The economy of tribal areas should be promoted to help stop guerrilla infiltration from Pakistan, Kabul radio quoted him as saying.

## Pen guns

Brussels (AFP) - Belgian police arrested a 23-year-old man who made a living by manufacturing ball-point pens that shot .22 calibre bullets, deadly at a range of up to three or four yards. A Frenchman found with 200 of the guns in his car was also held.

## Pilots sacked

Karachi (Reuters) - Pakistan's state-run airline PIA sacked five senior pilots for "spreading unfounded rumours, holding clandestine meetings and creating alarm and despondency". Three years ago it dismissed several thousand employees after a martial law decree banned unions in the airline.

## Dhaka defiance

Dhaka (Reuters) - Bangladesh's opposition parties, defying a ban on free political activity, staged protest marches and anti-martial law rallies after ceremonies honouring national heroes. Police and security forces stood by silently. A protest general strike is due on March 1.

## Li's visit

Islamabad (AP) - In his first overseas trip since his inauguration last year, President Li Xianian of China will pay a four-day state visit to Pakistan starting March 5. President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan visited China in October.

## Envoy hurt

Caracas (Reuters) - Venezuela's Ambassador in Guyana, Señor Sadio Garavito was wounded in the eye and his wife shot in the leg by assailants who surprised them at their home in Georgetown.

## Mixed blessing

Brussels - British and Irish residents in Belgium are to be given the right to vote in European elections in June. But voting is compulsory in Belgium and anybody who fails to go to the polls will be prosecuted.

## Owen tells EEC to widen scope of defence

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The EEC must widen its scope to take in defence and disarmament if it is ever to be stable, Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democratic Party, said in Brussels last night.

The former Foreign Secretary said it had long been clear that NATO was insufficient by itself and needed the underpinning of the European Community.

The need was for a new political cement to hold the Community together. "If you go on just talking about butter and wine you will not catch the public imagination," he said that the Community was based on too narrow a canvas, divorced from the broader and political imperatives of European security.

In his view it was necessary to extend the competence of the EEC to cover disarmament and security. It was essential for defence procurement to be worked out in common and to stop the unbalanced trade in arms from the United States to Europe.

European defence inhibitions about the nature of the American nuclear guarantee had led to ambivalent and often contradictory feelings about American nuclear policy.

Nato's reliance on nuclear weapons continue if nothing were done to reverse the pattern of European defence spending over the next five years.

"We must generate a new dynamic and set it in the context of Europe's political development," he said. Only by involving defence subjects along with trade would the Community carry enough weight to make its voice heard properly in the outside world.

Dr Owen took a swipe at Mr Neil Kinnock's recent conversion to the idea of a new conference to plan a rebuilt EEC. "Abandoning the open commitment to withdraw from the Community they now say again. When the inevitable cracks appear in any new building they cry 'pull it down'."

"The real challenge is to make the existing structure work, not be papering over the cracks, but by shoring up the foundations and removing some of the superstructure."

Leading article, page 15

## Poles appeal against priest's transfer

From Our Correspondent, Warsaw

Parishioners in the Warsaw working class suburb of Ursus yesterday continued their protest against a decision by Cardinal Jozef Glemp to transfer a popular pro-Solidarity priest, the Rev Mieczyslaw Nowak, to a remote rural parish.

A delegation was sent to Cracow to appeal for the priest's reinstatement to Cardinal Franciszek Macharski, Poland's senior church leader in the absence of Cardinal Glemp, now on a tour of Brazil and Argentina. Father Nowak's fiery sermons attacked the regime have angered the Polish authorities.

Twelve parishioners were staging a hunger strike, drinking only tea and water in a back room of the modernistic St Joseph's church near the Ursus tractor factory, a Solidarity stronghold. Dozens of others are maintaining a round-the-clock vigil in support of the strikers and collecting signatures to a petition.

The protests have been a source of embarrassment for Cardinal Glemp, but are unlikely to produce results. Bishop Kazimierz Romaniuk, an aide to the primate, told the parishioners that there were no legal grounds on which to change the decision. In an unusual display of defiance by usually devout and obedient churchgoers, about 2,000 worshippers

## Freed UN employee says she was not CIA spy

Warsaw (Reuters) - Alicja Wesolowska, a Polish United Nations employee freed from jail at the instigation of Señor Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary General, told reporters she stood by her denial that she had spied for the United States.

Mrs Wesolowska, aged 39, was resting at her parents' home at Torun in northern Poland after her release on Monday from a prison near Zielona Gora in western Poland.

She looked well and was in good spirits after serving four years of a seven-year sentence passed in 1980.

She told Western reporters that she had never been a CIA agent as the Polish authorities

alleged when she was arrested in Warsaw in 1979.

At the time, she was a member of the UN Secretariat and was on her way to take up a UN post in Mongolia. Mrs Wesolowska said she planned to remain in Poland.

She was released after Señor Pérez de Cuellar raised her case with the Polish Prime Minister, General Jaruzelski, during a four-day visit to Poland.

The government press spokesman Mr Jerzy Urban refused to comment on optimism expressed by Señor Pérez de Cuellar regarding the future of 11 dissidents and trade union activists who are awaiting trial on charges of plotting to overthrow communist rule.

## Colorado senator springs surprise

From Nicholas Ashford, Des Moines, Iowa

After Mr Walter Mondale, the candidate with most reason to be pleased with the outcome of the Iowa caucuses in Senator Gary Hart from Colorado, who finished second with 16 per cent of the vote.

Two months ago, it looked like his campaign, heavily in debt, was heading towards oblivion. Now he has suddenly become the leading challenger to Mr Mondale for the Democratic nomination, a role likely to be further consolidated after next week's primary in New Hampshire.

Senator Hart's success in Iowa was largely due to hard work, although he likes to believe that his "new ideas" on a range of issues also won

voters - particularly the young - to his cause. Desperately short of money and staff, he spent more time electioneering in Iowa than any of his seven rivals, driving around in a van and making as many as 10 campaign stops a day.

One lesson I learnt from George McGovern is the importance of grassroots campaigning in Iowa," Mr Hart told me during an hour-long interview last Sunday.

Aged 47, he was Mr McGovern's campaign manager in 1972 when the former Senator from South Dakota was catapulted into prominence by his unexpectedly strong showing in Iowa. He has since

joined the race. Mr Hart was the youngest of the Democratic candidates. He emphasized his relative youth and uses it to project himself as a new kind of leader with new ideas. This has earned him the epithet of an "A-1 Democrat".

He believes the party cannot hope to defeat President Reagan as long as it is still associated with the high-taxation, heavy-spending policies of the past. Mr Mondale, in particular, is part of that discredited past.

In speeches and debates, Mr Hart has sniped at Mr Mondale for his role in President Carter's despised administration, for being sub-

servient to trade unions and for being too cautious.

"My candidacy offers an alternative between two discredited pasts," he told me - "the outworn positions of Reagan Republicans, who care only for a few, and the outmoded ideas of those Democrats who promise everything to everybody".

By emphasizing his youth and devotion to new ideas, Senator Hart is trying to present himself as the John Kennedy of the 1980s. His craggy good looks, athletic build and flashing smile are all reminiscent of JFK. He even uses Kennedy's self-description - "an idealist without illusions" - about himself.

## Argentina accused of handing back exiles

By Our Foreign Staff

More than 90 Paraguayans have disappeared inside their country or in neighbouring Argentina since the mid-1970s, according to an Amnesty International briefing published today.

The human rights organization says that about 50 Paraguayan exiles living in Argentina after the military coup there in 1976 were abducted by members of the Argentine security forces, and had since disappeared. In a number of cases, there was evidence that "the victims were handed over to the Paraguayan security forces".

Former prisoners had reported that some of the "disappeared ones" had died under torture or were illegally executed while in custody.

Amnesty says that it continues to receive reports about the torture of political prisoners in Paraguay. In October 1983 these were 50, compared with

several hundred each year during the 1970s. Most of those in this category were considered prisoners of conscience.

Torture sessions are said to take place usually at night, with methods including the use of electric prods and the plunging of a victim's head into water, sometimes polluted with excrement, to the point of asphyxiation. The main purpose was "apparently to discourage any opposition to the government".

After claims of torture by a number of prisoners last September, the police chief of Asunción, the capital, blamed lawyers attached to the *Comité de Iglesias* (churches) committee for this publicity and said that they were acting on instructions from the Communist Party.

Special Briefing on Human Rights Violations in Paraguay (Amnesty International, British Section, 5 Roberts Place, EC1R 0EJ, 50p including postage).



Missionaries on trial: Father Niall O'Brien (second from left), of Dublin and Father Brian Gore, from Perth, Australia, who have been accused of murder, with co-defendants in Bacolod City jail, the Philippines. Their trial begins tomorrow.

## Law Report February 22 1984

### Reservations about rejecting affidavits

Pacific Financing Co Inc and Others v Moscow Narodny Bank Ltd. Before Lord Justice Waller. Lord Justice Fox and Lord Justice Robert Goff.

[Judgment delivered February 21] The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the fifth plaintiff, Mr Edward Wong Wing Chung, from Mr Justice Webster who on April 30, 1982 (*The Times* May 3, 1982), refused an application by the defendants, the Moscow Narodny Bank Ltd, for summary judgment under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court on a counterclaim, but making the fifth plaintiff's leave to defend the counterclaim conditional upon his paying into court the sum of US\$3.5m.

Mr Robert Gatehouse, QC, and Mr Steven Gee for the fifth plaintiff; Mr Samuel Stamler, QC and Mr Nicholas Strauss for the defendants. LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF, giving the judgment of the court, said that the fifth plaintiff, who was generally known as Mr Eddie Wong, appealed on the basis that he should have been given unconditional leave to defend.

The counterclaim against him concerned a number of advances of substantial sums of money made by the defendants to the first five plaintiffs, four of whom were companies controlled directly or indirectly by Mr Wong.

Mr Justice Webster, hearing the defendants' application for sum-

mary judgment on a part of the counterclaim, had isolated eight issues of fact alleged by Mr Wong to be triable issues. He had held Mr Wong's evidence in respect of four of those issues to be "almost wholly incredible" and in relation to the defence as a whole that Mr Wong's case against the bank was "shadowy".

The present appeal was concerned only with three of those eight issues, in relation to which the court had heard very full argument from counsel and had been referred to a large number of documents. Their Lordships had considered all the matters with care, and in their judgment it was a classic case where leave to defend should be made

conditional upon a payment into court of at least a substantial part of the entire sum at stake. It followed that the appeal would be dismissed.

However, there was an application their Lordships wished to make about the judgment of Mr Justice Webster. After hearing a full citation of authority, he had expressed an opinion about the circumstances in which a court might reject affidavit evidence on a summons under Order 14.

He had said that an affidavit should be rejected only if it was inherently unreliable because it was self-contradictory, inadmissible or irrelevant; that it should not be rejected if because of its inherent implausibility or its inconsistency

with other evidence it was found to be incredible or almost incredible; and that in the rare case where affidavit evidence could be rejected, he could, but would not necessarily conclude that on the evidence not even a faint possibility of a defence existed.

That point had not been fully argued before their Lordships who, accordingly, desisted from expressing any concluded view upon it. They wished, however, to express their reservations about a statement which sought no categorization, in exclusive terms, the circumstances in which such affidavit evidence could be rejected.

Solicitors: Holman, Fenwick & Willan; Slaughter & May.

### No rules on summary removal from UK

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Mustafa.

Part 12 of the Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules (HC 169) related to persons subject to deportation under sections 3(5) and 5 of the Immigration Act 1971, not to persons subject to summary removal as illegal immigrants under section 4 and Schedule 2 of that Act. There were therefore no rules regulating the exercise of the power of summary removal, and section 3 did not impose on the secretary of state any obligation to make such rules.

Mr Justice McCullough so held in the Queen's Bench Division on February 20, dismissing an application by Mr Mehmet Cemal Mustafa for judicial review of a decision of an immigration officer on January 11, 1983, to treat the applicant as an illegal immigrant on the basis that he had obtained leave to enter the United Kingdom by deception, and to give directions for his removal.

HIS LORDSHIP said that there was a discretion where a person had obtained leave to enter by deception and had overstayed that leave to treat him either as an illegal

immigrant, subject to summary removal, or as an overstayer who, although subject to deportation, had a right to remain here while pursuing his statutory appeal against the deportation order.

Although the exercise of that discretion was judicially reviewable, it was difficult to conceive circumstances in which it could be shown that that exercise had been so unreasonable as to be unlawful.

There was no obligation on the secretary of state to give reasons for the way in which his discretion had been exercised.

## European Law Report

### Conservation orders within EEC law

Gewiese and Mehlich v Mackenzie

Case 24/83

Before: Judge J. Mertens de Wilmars, President, and Judges T. Koopmans, K. Bahmann, Y. Galmot, P. Pescatore, Lord Mackenzie Stuart, A. O'Keefe, G. Bosco, O. Due, U. Everling and C. Nakourts.

Advocate General: Sir Gordon Slynn

[Judgment delivered February 14]

By the West Coast Herring (Prohibition of Fishing) Order (SI 1978 No 930) the United Kingdom prohibited herring fishing in the area designated Division VI by the International Council for Exploration of the Sea (ICES).

The Order was based on a Commission proposal to reduce to zero, in accordance with ICES recommendations, the total allowable catch of herring in that area and, the Commission expressly approved the order in December 1978. A small area of water covered by the Order lay on the Northern Ireland side of the median line between Scotland and Northern

Ireland. That area was not within the scope of the enabling powers of the Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1967. The United Kingdom Government corrected the error by making two separate orders: the West Coast Herring (Prohibition of Fishing) Order (SI 1981 No 585) and the North Coast (Prohibition of Herring Fishing) Regulations (Northern Ireland) (SI 1981 No 100) which entered into force on May 1 and April 27, 1981, respectively.

On July 10, 1981, two German fishing boats were arrested by the United Kingdom authorities while fishing for herring off the west coast of Scotland in the area covered by the May 1, 1981 Order. They were tried and convicted of contravening the Order and their catches were confiscated. They appealed by way of case stated and the High Court of Judiciary referred the matter for a preliminary ruling.

In its judgment the Court of Justice of the European Communities held as follows:

The member states might, in the case of inaction by the Council, bring into force interim conservation measures, but must, within the framework of the general task of supervision which article 155 of the Treaty entrusted to the Commission, comply with the procedural and substantive conditions laid down by the Council in Annex VI of the Hague Resolution of November 3, 1976, confirmed by the Council declaration of January 31, 1978.

In consequence, a member state must not bring national conser-

vation measures into force until it has sought in good faith the approval of the Commission. The 1981 Order entered into force on May 1, 1981 but was not notified to the Commission until May 4. That condition was not therefore satisfied.

The procedural rules in question were intended to ensure compliance with the substantive conditions laid down by the Council, which were binding on the member states, in a situation marked by a failure to implement a common policy regarding the conservation of fishery resources.

The requirements inherent in the safeguarding by the Community of the common interest and of the integrity of its own powers imposed upon the member states in such circumstances the obligation not to lay down national conservation measures in the face of objections, reservations or conditions which might be formulated by the Commission.

In principle, no fresh consultation of the Commission was required in the case of the re-enactment by a member state, without substantive amendment, of a national measure for the conservation of fishery resources, which was adopted previously in conformity with the procedural and substantive conditions laid down by Community law.

The notification of new national measures nevertheless continued to be necessary, in order that the Commission might be accurately informed of the state of the law in force in the various member states.

## Court of Justice of the European Communities

It was argued that a situation might arise in which a national conservation measure previously adopted in compliance with Community law could not be retained without substantive amendment, where the trend revealed by the relevant available scientific data showed that the earlier protection measures were no longer strictly necessary for the management and conservation of resources.

It was therefore for the national authorities to take the initiative in amending their measures in conformity with the procedural and substantive conditions referred to above, in order to adapt them to the new situation.

That argument could not be upheld. It failed to take account of the power vested in the Community since January 1, 1979 to adopt measures for the protection of the biological resources of the sea.

The determination that the former rules on protection were no longer appropriate in the light of scientific information newly available and the adoption of the measures called for by that situation were therefore matters exclusively for the Community authorities.

For those reasons, the court held that no fresh consultation of the Commission was required in the case of the re-enactment, without substantive amendment, of a national measure for the conservation of fishery resources, which was previously adopted in conformity with the procedural and substantive conditions laid down by Community law.



## Pretoria wields big stick despite peace initiative

From Michael Horvath, Johannesburg

A non-aggression pact between South Africa and Mozambique could be formally concluded at a summit between Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, and President Machel, it was being suggested here yesterday, after Monday's talks in Maputo, at which the principles of such a pact were agreed.

Pretoria's sudden switch from aggression to détente in its dealings with its black neighbours is as puzzling to many South Africans as it must be to outsiders more used to news stories of verbal insults, guerrilla attacks and military reprisals.

The truth is that South Africa's regional strategy has always been a judicious mix of the military and economic. On the one hand and the conciliatory diplomatic overture on the other, Pretoria is talking softly now, but it is still carrying a big stick behind its back.

The conciliatory phase seems to have begun in the final quarter of last year after the case of Angola and Mozambique. There had been contacts and meetings for a year or more before that, but these did not produce any clear results.

A nod in relations with Mozambique was reached in the middle of last year after the car bomb on May 20 in a crowded Pretoria street which killed 19 people and wounded more than 200. Responsibility was claimed by the banned African National Congress (ANC).

South Africa responded at once with an air raid on alleged ANC houses in Maputo, where the car bombing was said to have been planned. In October, Pretoria sent a commando unit to bomb an ANC office after sabotage of petrol storage tanks at Warmbaths in central Transvaal.

Later in October, President Machel made a tour of European capitals in which he acknowledged his country's desperate economic plight and his desire for a fresh start in relations with Western countries and South Africa.

This was followed at the end of November and in early December by a European tour by Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, who also had a crucial, though at the time little noted, meeting in Rome with Dr Chester Crocker, the American Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs.

January 16 saw the first breakthrough with simultaneous meetings in Maputo and Pretoria of working groups on a range of security and economic issues. These paved the way for last Monday's historic ministerial-level meeting in Maputo, which thrashed out the terms of a non-aggression pact.

The pact will in effect require Mozambique to curb the activities of the ANC and South Africa to cease its active, if covert, support of anti-government insurgents in Mozambique.

Pretoria came close to a ceasefire agreement with Angola in December, 1982, after talks on the Cape Verde Islands, with Luanda. That initiative collapsed, however, after Swapo guerrillas based in southern Angola launched a rainy-season offensive against South African-occupied Namibia early in 1983.

There was little movement until Mr P. W. Botha's December meeting in Rome with Dr Crocker. It was here, apparently, that South Africa was persuaded to make its offer of a trial ceasefire in the Angola-Namibia border region.

This proposal was duly presented at the United Nations, although its significance was somewhat blurred by the simultaneous launching of a substantial South African military incursion against Swapo bases in Angola.

As late as January 20, the prospects for a ceasefire looked dim after Mr Botha had publicly rejected the terms of Angola's response to the proposal. However, after talks in Cape Town on January 28 with Dr Crocker, Mr P. W. Botha announced in Parliament on January 31 that South Africa had been disengaging its forces from southern Angola.

On February 16 in Lusaka, the Zambian capital, at a tripartite meeting with the United States, a decision was taken by Angola and South Africa to set up a joint commission to monitor the disengagement and Angola's pledge that neither Cuban nor Swapo troops would be allowed to move into the vacated areas.

Angolan and Mozambique have been driven to the negotiating table by the chaotic conditions in their countries, which are only partly the result of Pretoria's "destabilization".

Leading article, page 15

## Barricades go up again on French highways

From Diana Geddes, Paris

In a deliberate act of defiance, lorry drivers extended their road blockades yesterday, blocking in particular all access from Paris to Charles de Gaulle airport, as talks began between representatives of the road haulage federations and the Government which had earlier insisted that it would not negotiate under pressure.

By yesterday evening, nearly 90 blockades were reported to be in place, compared with only 50 the day before, mainly in the north-west, north-east, around Paris, and in the Savoy-Alps area. This was where the trouble first started a week ago in protest over lengthy delays caused by strikes of customs officials on both sides of the Franco-Italian frontier.

The French customs officials are now working normally, but their Italian colleagues resumed their strike on Monday in pursuit of demands for more pay and shorter working hours. More than 2,000 lorries, including some from Britain, have been stuck for days on the Italian side waiting to cross the Alps through the Mont Blanc tunnel.

Ski resorts in the Chamonix Valley area are complaining that hotel reservations have dropped by 20 per cent at what is normally a peak period in the school mid-term holidays, as a direct result of the lorry drivers' action.



Motorway patrol: Police vehicles block a section of road outside Paris to keep protesting lorry drivers clear of the capital.

On Sunday, the two main organizations representing France's 30,000 road haulage concerns called on their members to remove their blockades pending the result of the promised negotiations with the Government.

But on Monday night, the smaller of the two federations added to the general confusion by changing its mind and ordering members to continue

their action in order to keep the pressure on the Government.

One of the main targets this time was Paris, and traffic on the ringroad around the capital was brought to a virtual standstill in many places, as well as on many of the main arteries into the city, including the A3 north to Charles de Gaulle airport, market of Rungis to the south of the city, however.

The first round of talks with the Government is intended to deal with immediate demands by drivers: compensation for delays and damaged cargoes, which, as the damage is self-inflicted, the insurance companies are unlikely to cover; immediate reopening of the Franco-Italian frontier and long-term measures to speed up customs clearance; reduced toll charges for goods lorries using

the Mont Blanc tunnel; and the waiving of all legal sanctions against drivers involved in the dispute.

● VIENNA: More than 800 lorries were stranded on the Austrian side of the Brenner Pass yesterday (Richard Bassett writes). The Italian customs dispute is estimated to be costing Austrian exporters 7 million schillings (£260,000) a day.

## S African policeman jailed for killing black

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

A white South African security policeman, Sergeant Jan Harm Van As, was sentenced in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday to 10 years in prison for shooting dead a black detainee whom he was interrogating on July 5 last year.

Mr Justice F. N. Kirk-Cohen had found Van As guilty of culpable homicide, but rejected the request of the state prosecutor for a verdict of murder.

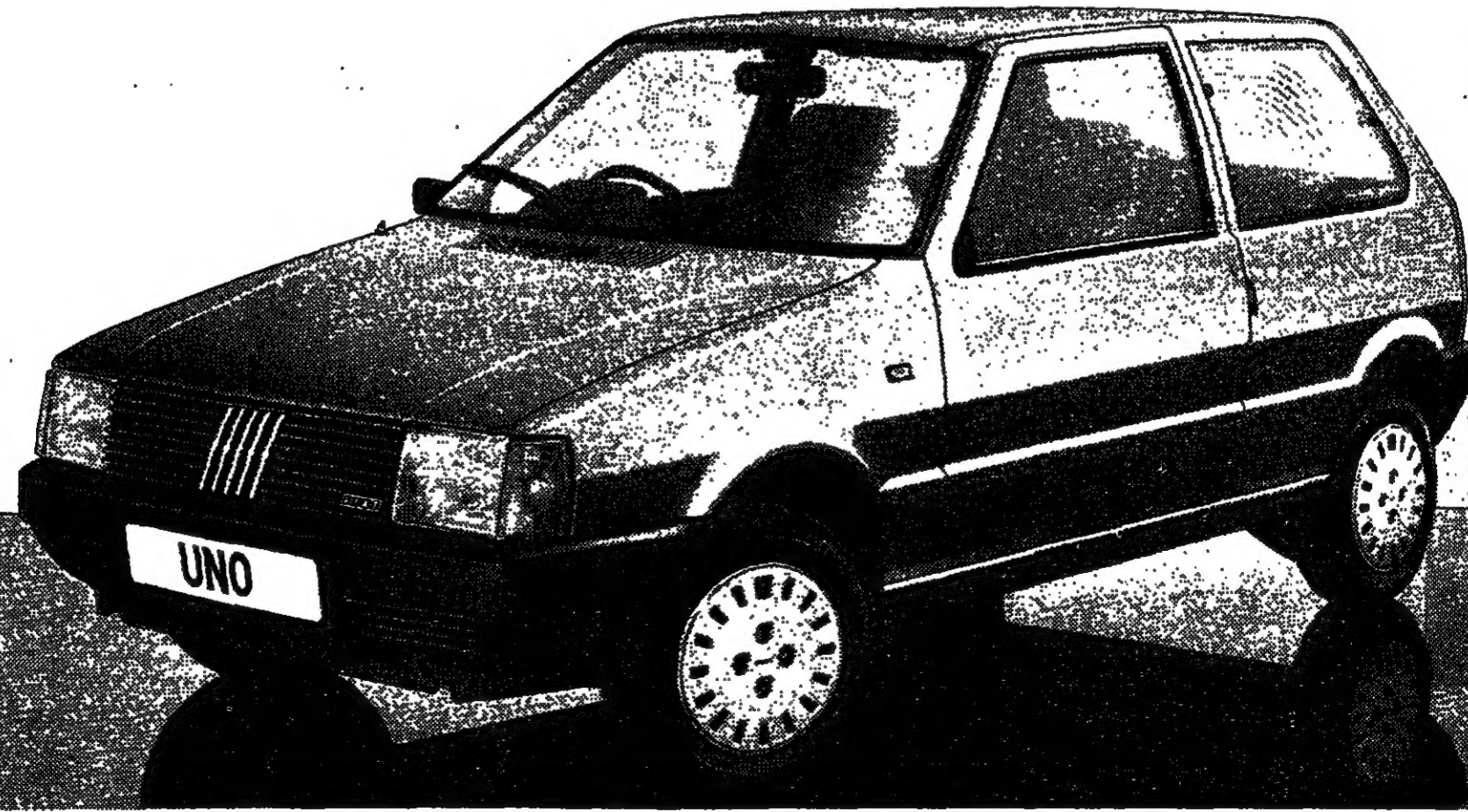
Mr Kirk-Cohen accepted that the accused had forced the defenceless Paris Malatji, aged 23, to "kneel before him, unlocked the safety catch and held the loaded gun to his head" with the aim of terrifying the detainee into making a confession about his alleged links with the banned African National Congress.

The judge said there was a possibility that Malatji had tried to defend himself, that the pistol had gone off inadvertently and that Van As had not intended to shoot, though he should have known it was unlawful to point a gun at a detainee.

Lawyers for the parents of Malatji have started a suit for damages of 51,600 rands (£30,300) against the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis Le Grange, who is responsible for the police.

# "QUITE SIMPLY, THE BEST SMALL CAR YET"

CAR OF THE YEAR 1984



## The man who kissed Mrs Thatcher President Pertini's first London visit

From Peter Nichols, Rome

It is never too late will be the obvious moral drawn by the arrival at Heathrow tomorrow of Signor Sandro Pertini, Italy's irrepressible President, who at the age of 87 will see London for the first time.

In Italy the President is by far the most popular figure in public life, safely ahead even of the Pope. The Spanish newspaper *El Pais* has called him the world's most popular politician. He has undoubtedly won an extraordinary esteem by his candour and an ability to combine informality with human dignity. He is an official candidate for the Nobel Peace Prize ("it would be false modesty to say I didn't want it").

A lifelong socialist who spent much of his youth in Mussolini's prisons, his British political idols tend to be Conservatives. He talks about Churchill's greatness, adding that the "blood, sweat, toil and tears" speech "gave fresh heart to us anti-Fascist prisoners when reports of it reached us". He is a declared admirer of Mrs Thatcher.

She was her last month and they met fleetingly last week at the Andropov funeral. "Mrs Thatcher," he says over half a glass of punt e mes, "is a woman I find very likeable. She gets on with things. And then you in Britain have swept men out of public life. The men have become impotent. In political terms that is."

"The head of state, the head of the Government and the Lord Mayor of London are for the first time all women. I am very fond of the Queen: we talk together like two friends of long standing. She is open-minded, straightforward and speaks her mind."

These are undoubtedly the virtues most appreciated by Pertini. It also explains why, in the case of Mrs Thatcher at least, his affection for her is much more marked than is usual among Italian politicians who are less inclined than he to accept straight talking. They find her manner too harsh.

Not the President: "I know you British are a stylish people, but at soon as I saw her in Moscow last week I embraced her and kissed her. Naturally, according to British etiquette this is something which should not be done, quite deplorable, that a man should embrace the Prime Minister. But I like her."



President Pertini: "British are a stylish people."

The Moscow journey was the most recent proof of the President's stamina, considering that he was already a grown man before the Russian revolution broke out. He stopped at Budapest on the way to Moscow for a quick talk with the Hungarian Deputy Prime Minister, arrived in time to pay his respects at Mr Andropov's bier, stood the next day for over two hours at the funeral ceremony ("it was not as long as we feared"), took two vodkas and a grappa at the Italian Embassy to disperse the cold, spoke at some length with Mr Chernomir, met the Italian community, had a long talk with Mr George Bush, visited an Italian school, set off the next day for Rome and stopped on the way back in Vienna for a talk with the Austrian President.

He came away from his meeting with Mr Chernomir favourably impressed. "He seemed to me a likeable rather than a hard faced man. He gave me the impression of a certain affability. If matters depend on him, I might well be reassured in a more tranquil terrain."

This need for reviving talks between East and West will be, he says, the main point in his talks with Mrs Thatcher. "She will not need my prompting because Mrs Thatcher is capable of moving on her own account: we are agreed on that. But I shall give my views on the subject with every firmness. This dialogue between the superpowers and the allies must be resumed. If not, trouble... because if we do not do so the silence can be broken by the nuclear bomb. And then no one will ever speak to each other again."

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## DIRECTORS' CONVENTION

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## HONGKONG

## Freedom rules, says Pao

Free enterprise and free trade have been the key factors behind the big economic success of Hongkong, Sir Yue-Kong Pao the Hongkong shipping millionaire told the convention.

The global trend towards protectionism is in fact more of a worry to Hongkong's business community than the political uncertainties about the colony's future, he said. Despite its small area and total lack of raw materials, Hongkong has become one of the 20 largest trading nations in the world as well as a leading financial centre.

"What had been crucial to this success is the fact that people had, and continue to have, incentives to perform better. They have been able to keep and enjoy more of what they earn."

Sir Y.K., who is chairman of the World-Wide Shipping Group, said that confidence was crucial to economic success. Hongkong had suffered an unusual loss of confidence in the last few years, with political uncertainties allied with the effects of the world recession, the collapse of the Hongkong property market and the weakness of Hongkong's currency.

But his pessimism had proved to be a temporary phenomenon.

## GOVERNMENT POLICY

## Professions cannot escape competition, says Brittan

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, told the Institute of Directors convention in London yesterday that the professions should not be sheltered from competition.

"Proposals to improve competition in conveyancing were announced last Friday," he said.

"The City and the Law Society are also opening up their practices to more competitive pressure. Competition must apply irrespective of vested interests in the private and the public sectors alike in whatever form best serves the customers' interests."

Nowhere, he added, would improvements in markets reap surer or more welcome rewards than in the labour market. "A more efficient labour market allowing workers to price themselves and others into, rather than out of, jobs would make the single most important contribution to tackling the scourge of unemployment."

"For years trade unions in Britain have sought to collectivize the economy. From the top, through pressure for nationalization planning agreements, and legislative changes to reinforce their powers. From the bottom, by constant pressure to widen union membership - and in particular, through the application of the iniquitous closed shop."

"The whole sorry process has

been self-defeating, but it has been a defeat in which all of us have lost."

Nothing was more nonsensical, said Mr Brittan, than the claim that the law had no place in industrial relations. "It does, it always has, and it undoubtedly always will. Unions are creatures of law."

The Government's two Employment Acts were designed to redress the balance of power between employers and employees, those in unions and those outside them, those who held jobs and those who sought jobs.

"Yet ultimately, it is up to the unions to recognize that the irresponsible misuse of their power both to force up real wages and to impose unionization on those who do not wish it, leads to more unemployment."

Mr Brittan said that Mrs Thatcher's administration was a radical and reforming government whose main achievement had been to change for ever the terms of the debate about Britain's future.

"That change is not just important for the political parties. It is not just important for business and for everyone in this hall. It is crucial to Britain's prospects and prosperity in the years ahead."

"A new international consensus exists on the need to control

governments spending and borrowing, to encourage profits and to make markets work. Successive international summits have recognized it."

"Just a few years ago our medium term financial strategy was the butt of leithargic jocularity at every fringe meeting at the Conservative Conference. Now, however, the example of the MTFSS is studied and followed by governments at conferences of a rather different sort."

"West Germany and Holland have medium-term plans to tackle their government deficits. And there is growing pressure to adopt a similar approach in the US."

"What lies behind this sea-change of opinion and policy is a mixture of necessity and conviction."

"But the new consensus also represents a new conviction. That is something which we must not hide. It is that the pursuit of equality through collective action creates poverty, injustice and often corruption and oppression. At the heart of liberal conservatism and the social market economy is a belief in the individual's ability to better himself and, through the market, to better others too. That is why the most important single long-term goal of this Government must now be to make markets work."



Colin Marshall, of British Airways, left, and Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, addressing the conference



## British managers 'too unemotional'

Business leaders in Britain need to be more emotional and more prepared to make mistakes, Mr Colin Marshall, chief executive of British Airways, told the convention.

Paucity of leadership was a more serious failing in Britain than technological obsolescence, inflation, or labour problems.

Many of Britain's business leadership problems stem from its justly famous educational system, Mr Marshall said. This turns out superbly trained analytical minds which see all

the intellectual elements of any business problem, but lack the emotional impetus to do something about them. The people it produces have comparatively little understanding or empathy with the needs of others.

Commitment in business required a certain amount of emotional display which is anathema to many people in Britain.

Business schools offered innumerable courses on how to cope with balance sheets, but few curricula provided help in

learning how to work with people.

Mr Marshall said he had seen very able managers outshone by men of apparently lesser ability who worked at supplying care and concern for all the people who worked with them. The need was for caring leadership.

Young managers should be taught that making mistakes was acceptable, that leadership demanded communication, and that they should always tell the truth.

## ECONOMY

## Goldsmith urges widespread tax cuts

Mr Walter Goldsmith, the director-general of the institute, said that Britain was "on the verge of an economic miracle", but he urged Mrs Thatcher not to "abandon the mission" and called for a widespread cut in taxation.

"We have reached a point in the life of Mrs Thatcher's government where it is all too easy for her to slacken the reins."

"To the Prime Minister it must sometimes seem that the behaviour of cabinet and spending ministers has not changed since the seventeenth century. In congratulating the Prime Minister on so many achievements, businessmen must candidly also say that it might all have been for nothing if public spending and the burden of taxation continue to rise."

"This is not the time to abandon the mission. Now is the time for Mrs Thatcher to revive the radical zeal of 1979. Tax cuts are not an option or a luxury; they are a necessity for growth, enterprise, and investment, savings and jobs."

To curb public spending is not something which is to be striven for with little hope of reward: it is the bedrock of the policy upon which the present Government was elected."

Mr Goldsmith said the institute posed the question to Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor: "If you cannot tackle public spending and map out a strategy for the tax cuts you say are necessary now, at the start of your term, with a majority of 144 seats, when will you be able to do so?"

Britain was on the verge of an economic miracle comparable to the German success of the 1950s, said Mr Goldsmith. Inflation was down from 27 per cent to 5 per cent, industrial output was up 7 per cent on 1981, gross domestic product growth was the highest in Europe, healthy upturns were apparent in the motor and housing industries, and standards of living were rising.

"But we cannot rely on growth to fuel itself."

He called on the Chancellor to raise the income tax thresholds of the lower paid, to start cutting income tax basic rate, to abolish the investment income surcharge and tackle some of the capital taxes "which attack capitalism itself."

"What a disappointment it would be if Nigel Lawson's first Budget was remembered for putting up beer or cigarettes, taking away mortgage or pension tax reliefs, or capital allowances for business, or introducing so-called financial services taxes."

"On the other hand, what a splendid and solid foundation for the future there would be if the Chancellor's first budget encouraged enterprise, extended the property-owning democracy and started to set the people free from the tyranny and demoralization of excessive taxation."



Walter Goldsmith: call for radical zeal

## ECONOMICS

## Muldoon backs summit

Sir Robert Muldoon, Prime Minister of New Zealand, said that for nearly two years, the world's decision makers had been seeking a long-term remedy for global economic problems similar to the Bretton Woods arrangement of 40 years ago.

Whether we are yet sufficiently afraid of the economic future to come together in a 'new Bretton Woods' is yet to be determined. My belief is that we do not do it now when we will do it later in even less propitious circumstances."

"What is proposed, as was the case in 1944, is a detailed preliminary procedure of analysis leading to the preparation of options, followed finally by a conference which may extend over some time to agree on which options are acceptable."

"I believe that agreement can only be reached by, and in the name of, the world community. The regular summits, the Group of 10, the OECD, the IMF, the Group of 77, the non-alignment movement - almost all agree on the analysis of the situation, but the solution is beyond any one of these organizations."

"The governments of the powerful industrial economies hold the key and no solution which is not generally acceptable to them will ever be reached."

"It is also necessary to marry the views of the wealthy countries, who agree that something must be done but are fearful of a major conference where everyone speaks and no one listens, and the Third World, who want that major conference immediately."

On the issue of protectionism, Sir Robert said that the Gatt had outlived its mandate. It had nowhere to go on industrial products and had never gone anywhere on agricultural products.

Among the three worst offenders in respect of agricultural protectionism are Japan, the United States and the European Community, not necessarily in that order.

"The Common Agricultural Policy of the Community is economic lunacy of the highest order."

## INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

## Jaguar's chief calls for union support

Mr John Egan, chairman of Jaguar, the BL subsidiary which is soon to be privatized, spoke of the need for trade unions to "break out of the time warp they seem to be in" and support the creation of wealth.

"In today's industrial environment they must learn that antique philosophies calling for more money for less work and giving less commitment to the future of their company are inappropriate. Trade unions must show the leadership to ensure that their members abandon short term thinking and understand that their own and their company's interests lie together."

"Good quality and high productivity can only be achieved through industrial harmony, this in turn can bring massive investment and good employment."

"Satisfying the customer has to be the goal of the chairman, the youngest apprentice and the chief shop steward. Jobs, wages, profits and investments are all by-products of a satisfied customer."

Earlier, Mr Egan outlined the recovery plan for Jaguar that had begun in 1980 with improved quality as the first priority.

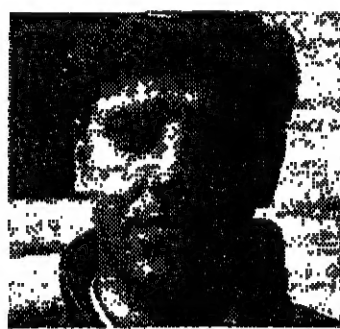
"It was abundantly clear from the outset that emphasizing quality as the number one priority of the company met with the full approval of the workforce. It was also absolutely clear to us that we would

make good purely and simply because everybody was utterly determined to play his part. The company was going to win because the employees wanted to win."

"Since 1980-81, demand for our cars in all world markets has continued to grow and whilst our workforce fell from 10,500 making 14,000 cars in 1980 to 7,200 producing the same number in 1981, it has since grown to just over 8,000 making over 28,000 cars last year. This represents a trebling of productivity compared with 1980."

He added: Overall we have tried to create an environment at Jaguar which is the exact opposite of the purely instrumental approach which characterizes the employee's attitude towards his company in so much of industry. We know the dividends this pays not only in terms of generating a much better atmosphere within our factories, but also in our people's willingness to go far beyond the normal call of duty when problems arise."

"It is a simple philosophy. We believe that everyone working for Jaguar must be kept fully informed of its progress. Jaguar's world sales had grown from 14,000 in 1980 to 29,170 last year, including remarkable growth in the United States. But the performance index that gave most pleasure was the improvement in customer satisfaction ratings."



Mr. R. Goldie, Glasgow  
"The decision must be individual as anything else strikes at the basic right to freedom of choice."



Ms Margaret Turison, London  
"I think people should be left alone to decide what they want to do with their hard-earned money."



Mr. A. L. Duff, Manchester  
"As a non-smoker, which is my own choice, I think that people should have the right to smoke or not based on freedom of choice - not the will of the Government."



Ms. K. Saville, Oldham  
"As a British citizen, I feel that the decision should be my own - not dictated by financial reasons imposed on me by the Government of the day."



Ms. Karen Brown, Bury  
"It is up to the individual if he or she would like to smoke. Tax is high enough to begin with. So why does the Government keep constantly putting the tax up?"



Ms. Anne Rowe, Camberley  
"The right to smoke or not is up to the individual."



Ms. C. Wood, Kilmalcolm  
"It is unfair to have such a high taxation on cigarettes... when other luxury-class items are taxed at 15%."



Mr. J. Parker, Sevenoaks  
"I am a non-smoker, but accept that other people should have the choice to smoke or not. The idea of taxing that choice out of existence is unfair and undemocratic."



Mr. D. A. Martin, Hockley  
"The tax on tobacco is in my opinion a most unfair revenue raised and steps should be taken to reduce the rate."

# 9 out of 10\* people wish to be free to decide whether they will smoke or not.

## Unfair taxation is taking that freedom away.

Even though they might not be smokers, ordinary people want to be free to decide about smoking for themselves.

The taxes on cigarettes are unfair compared with most other products. Excessive tax means that smoking is being put out of the reach of many people, and the decision is no longer theirs.

A recent poll\* conducted by NOP Market Research

showed that 9 out of 10 people felt that smoking was a matter for personal choice.

The tax burden falls upon everyone, but the smoker is paying more than his fair share.

Even 43% of non-smokers agree that the tax on cigarettes is already too high.

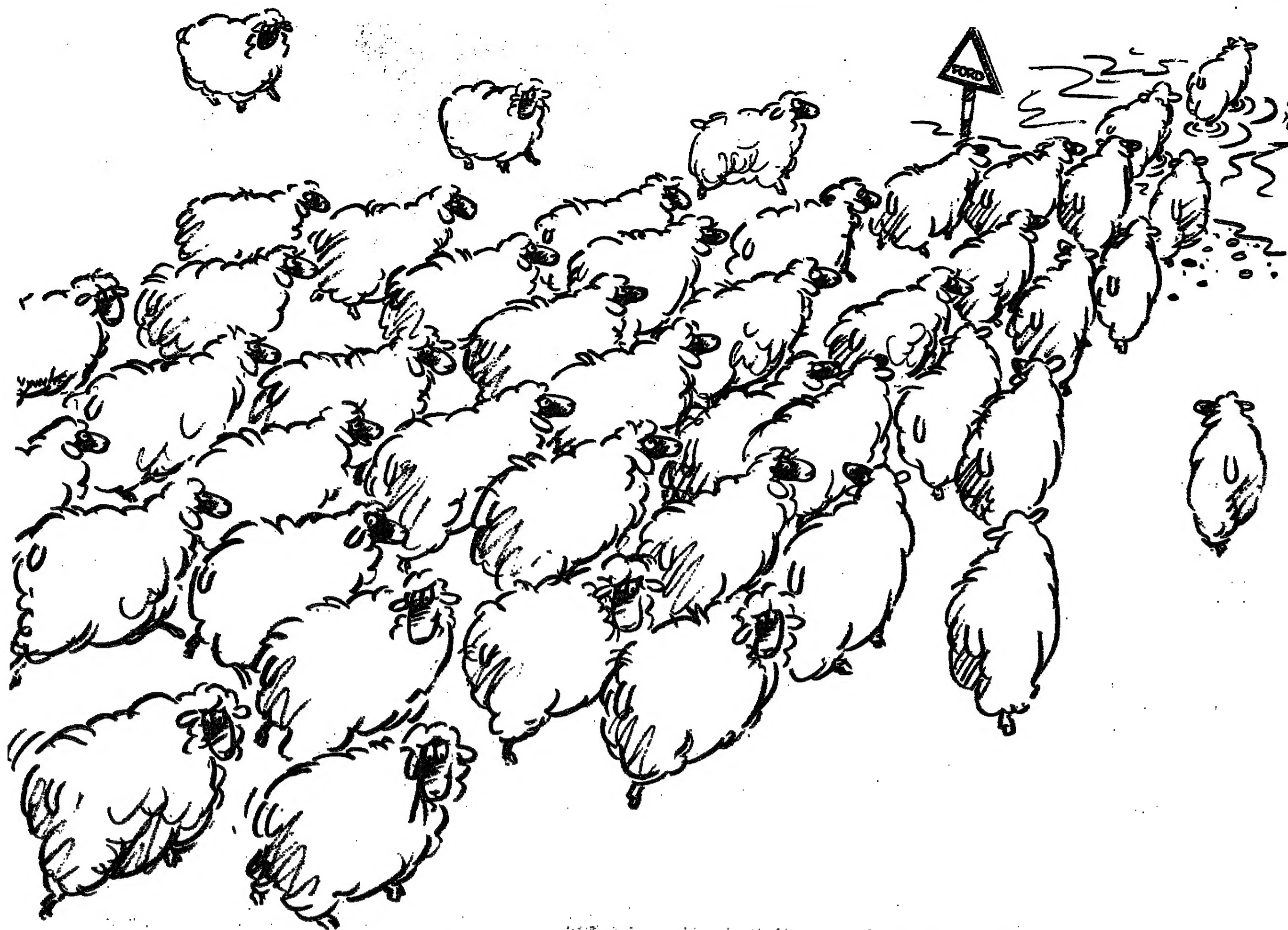
For people who want to decide for themselves, the time has come to say, 'Enough is Enough.'



\*NOP Market Research Ltd., July-Nov. 1983

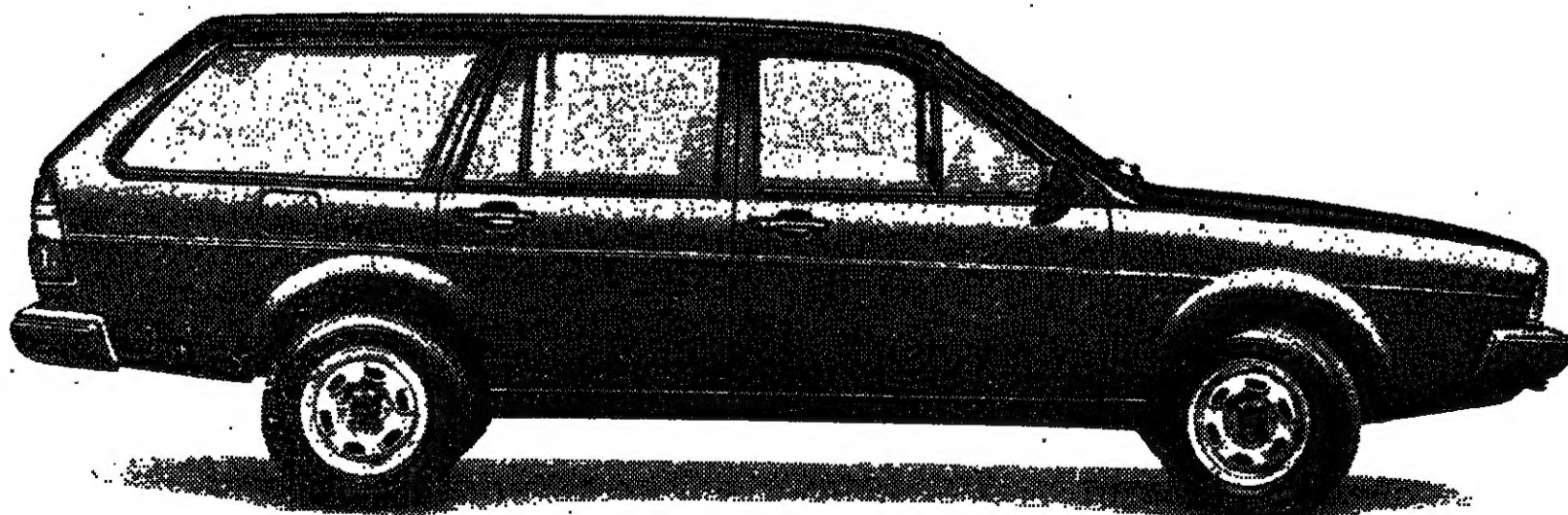
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Even though it cost less when you bought it.

**Passat Estate.**





# Verdian vigour is too shackled by doubt

Jérusalem

Opéra, Paris

The Opéra's inaugural season of putting on a number of works which, at least, substantially rewritten by their composers, has just taken place. The first, after Rossini's *Le Comte Ory*, was a great success, under the direction of Luca Ronconi, Verdi's *Jérusalem*, Italy's last opera.

The opera, Verdi's last, was indeed his first. It was written in 1845 for his first wife, Giuseppina, and Lombardi, who was then in the city, and Verdi's first opera, *Oberto*, was scarcely a staple of the repertoire, although Covent Garden saw it in 1870, and it has since been produced in the mid-Seventies and in the Scala repertoire at La Scala. But it is highly praised for its "vigour and power, qualities shared with Verdi's preceding opera, *Macbeth*."

In "O Signore, del teno natio" which the Lombards sing in the Holy Land during the Crusades of the time, it has a chorale of the Hebrew slaves to which Verdi's "ma lezua" is an aria most fittingly sung by the tenors, and Verdi's "Sokra's improbable, even impossible, libretto of parricide, incestuous love and disguised hermits is another matter."

For his Paris opera Verdi turned the "plot" over to Royer and Vaz, who a few years earlier had provided Donizetti with the libretto for *La Fiamma*. They did the right thing by ensuring that the crusaders were Frenchmen (from Toulouse) rather than Italians from Lombardy. The

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has his hole in the ground and the Crusaders are always on the rampage, there is a cold grey light with formal blocks of earth and pillars that come from a quite different visual tradition.

Simon, in sum, has laid bare just what he should have tried to conceal: that *Jérusalem* is indeed stylistically a divided opera. Fortunately, on the musical side Verdi got a much better deal, although some of the new numbers, including the *Scène de la*

desert, which is a masterpiece and yet shoot out above everyone else in ensemble. The polonaise in which Hélène, wandering in the desert with her faithful companion Isure (Judith Malafronte), is overjoyed at the news her beloved Gaston is still alive came across with a brilliance that suggests she would be ideal casting for a part such as Elvira in *Puritani*.

Gaston, the tenor wrongly accused of murder, was Veriano Luchetti, a little heavy-handed in the French style, but his singing was superb. The opera chorus, too, was superb, and Verdi's most choicest

complaints about having an Italian cast to sing in French were justified. French, then, there is Alain Fondary matching them in vocal standards as the Count.

Donato Renzetti, heard to good advantage in Glyndebourne's *Barbiere*, early on seemed as uncertain as Jean-Marie Simon about the true nature of *Jérusalem*. It needed a Sinopoli or a Chailly to reach into the guts of the score. Later in the evening he achieved a much better result with the orchestra, and the opera chorus, too, was superb, and Verdi's most choicest

Hammerstein's able production of the opera, which is a masterpiece of the art, you will find it in the gallery.

One problem with the opera, which is a masterpiece of the art, you will find it in the gallery.

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## La traviata

Hexagon, Reading

Verdi, I suspect, would be a happy, even ardent, follower of Opera 80's new travelling *Traviata*, on its way now from a week in the West to the Midlands and the East. The original hopes for an opera with a contemporary setting were thwarted in 1856 and have been, by and large, ever since. Steven Pimlott, in updating the Lady of the Camellias to 1923, has come brilliantly close to the work's nerve-centre, while also providing the economy and versatility of stagecraft it needs.

Annie Smart's handsome set designs illuminate and realize this economy: black and light filtered white for the opulent acts and shades of lavender and cream for the elegant, intimate scenes that nestle near the stage. The choreographed flares, fancy dress party.

Far from intruding with gimmick or cliché, the very simplicity of design unifies and focuses the response of ear and eye. And, at the same time, the nervous equivocation and agitation in Verdi's score are cannily reflected in the frenetic activity, the restlessness of an age which, in Cecil Beaton's words, lived "always to be moving". Above all, though,

this small-scale production achieves what was the very heart of Verdi's opera: stripping down to the emotional response.

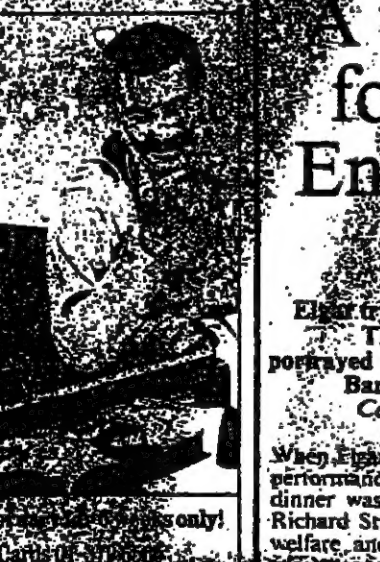
We hear it first in the full David Parry's subtle and sensitive direction, hugging close the word of his new and generally successful translation. And on Monday we felt it, suddenly, the Violetta of Bronwen Mills like two principals are double cast. Lyne Dawson sings tonight. Miss Mills's portrayal is one which any London stage could be proud of.

Her musical and dramatic rapport with Paul Hatching's distinctive Alfredo was strongly balanced, the more so as he is not her usual partner. Kevin John was indisposed. No less carefully thought through was the relationship of Germont, played by the excellent and well-known tenor, John Marshall.

Among the smaller parts, working in strong supporting ensemble, Geoffrey Dolton's Baron, and Susan Bisset's Anna, stood out. In what is undoubtedly the company's most purposeful and valuable production to date.

Hilary Finch

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## Two Sides of a Coin

Sonata, London

One problem with the opera, which is a masterpiece of the art, you will find it in the gallery.

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Peter Stothard reports on the fiction of Mrs Thatcher's foreign policy adviser

# Her man in Havana—or in Stanley?

**L**AST week a new novel arrived in the Prime Minister's personal mail at 10 Downing Street. Mrs Thatcher does not normally ask for new novels, preferring something more established for her rare times of relaxed reading. She may, however, have looked more closely than usual at this one.

It tells how a great British fleet was prepared and provided for in dramatic haste, how it sailed into far-off hostile waters in order to capture a small island and enhance "the grand historical adventure of the English nation"; also how the enterprise was betrayed in Parliament by pusillanimous politicians, the soldiers' sacrifices forgotten and the island returned to the Spanish-speaking foe.

The novel's author is Lord Thomas of Swynnerton, still probably better known as Hugh Thomas, historian of the Spanish Civil War, head of the 'right-wing think-tank' the Centre for Policy Studies, and one of the Prime Minister's close advisers on foreign affairs. It is set not in the South Atlantic of 1982, but the Caribbean of 1762 when a successful anti-Spanish expedition against Cuba, backed by William Pitt the Elder and the Duke of Newcastle, was opposed and undone by rival Tory peacemakers led by the notorious Lord Bute. The Falklands echo is, however, clear.

At the time of the 1982 campaign, Lord Thomas was one of those most intimately involved in Mrs Thatcher's tough negotiating stance against Argentina. In *Havannah*, to be published tomorrow, he has chosen to use a fictional device to weigh up the expedition's price and lasting value. The message is a simple one—spelt out perhaps too simply and starkly for the taste of some Conservatives.

As he explained it himself last week, "naval expeditions in British history may not be all the same, but they have



Hugh Thomas has written an historical novel about the British naval expedition to the Caribbean in 1762 portrayed (above) by Dominic Serres. But the problems facing the victors of the South Atlantic in 1982 are not far from the surface

important similarities. The 'take-and-hold' school will always tend to dominate for a short while and always tend to lose in the end. So there is a symbolic point in *Havannah*—the importance of the boost to the national spirit which accrues from victory, even victory followed by a political sell-out."

Hugh Thomas has written a novel that is partly in code—a typical act of his, according to political colleagues. He has always been a difficult man for Conservatives to pin down. Some suspect him simply for being an apostate. He is a former socialist and Labour candidate who made a sharp conversion to Mrs Thatcher's cause in 1977. To others, he is suspiciously smooth and charming. He has strong, silvery hair and such looks as Lord Byron might have enjoyed had he lived to Lord Thomas's age, 53 next birthday. Artists and intellectuals rarely find a secure home in the Conservative Party. Mrs Thatcher is no more than mildly enthusiastic about them herself. So why, it is asked, does he appear to be so favoured?

This line of questioning is particularly current at the moment. By the Prime Minister's appointment, he runs the Centre for Policy Studies, a temple for radical Tory free-marketers founded by Sir Keith Joseph when the party was last in opposition and until recently dominated by the abrasive personality of Sir Alfred Sherman. But today Sherman sits on the sidelines after a series of acrimonious disputes with Thomas. Whether the consequent softening in the rhetoric emerging from the CPS is by Prime Ministerial design or not, few know for certain. But it is much talked of. Has Lord Thomas been given the role of dampening too

great right-wing expectations on the economy, on East-West relations, on the Falklands? Many think so.

When a vacancy is looming in a job that lies in the Prime Minister's gift, an ambassadorship in Madrid or Moscow, the mastership of Trinity College Cambridge, his name is bandied about as a candidate. But he is a man who keeps his own very close counsel. "From politics it is a short step to silence," quotes the narrator's sister in the closing pages of *Havannah*. So with the author too: only the occasional sharp public or semi-public statement breaks out from the mist of reticence that his colleagues find at once such a source of endearment and suspicion.

His books—particularly this most recent book—have a characteristic pattern of imaginative scholarship and firm didacticism. In the late 1950s he and his friend and fellow Tory convert-to-be, Paul Johnson, both wrote light novels. Johnson's on student revolution in France. Thomas's on the absurdities of the Foreign Office where he had worked for a short time after leaving Cambridge. That first book, *The World's Game* (dedicated to Nancy Mitford, and now he proudly explains, priced in US catalogues at \$30, as "Thomas's first work") begins with a long disclaimer that seems to protest a bit too much that its characters bear no relation to any living person. His second novel, *The Oxygen Age*, is another satire—this time on the gullibility of politicians in the face of technological advance. Both contain pellets of hard political criticism amidst the gentle wit. To the *Times Literary Supplement* reviewer of *The World's Game*, the set speeches were the best thing about the book. Thomas subsequently abandoned

writing novels for the more remunerative and fame-bringing business of being a historian. He commented last week that he had never any particular ambition to be a novelist: "It just seemed the right way to start as a writer." There followed *The Spanish Civil War*, *The Sixty Affair* (another British expedition hamstrung by politicians), an edited study of the English establishment, and his most recent and remarkable history book, *An Unfinished History of the World*, which traces the technological and economic forces that have moulded the earth from its beginnings as a ball of gas, almost to the present day.

The novels slipped into oblivion. In the publisher's proof copy of *Havannah* they are cited amongst the author's previous work. In the published version they have been excised. But the didactic streak remains. The political pundit still peeps from behind the apron strings of historian and novelist.

*An Unfinished History of the World* contains many a little lecture on the evils of subsidy (its contribution to the collapse of Roman corn production), the disaster of over-regulation by government (with reference to the Spanish wool industry) and the scarcity of entrepreneurs (in relation to poor Chinese exploitation of technology). If Mrs Thatcher dips selectively into her signed copy of *Havannah*, she will find much to appreciate there, too. On page 42, the problem of civil service overmanning: "Thirty admirably clerks. Did you ever hear such a scandal?" On page 58, the importance of not inviting cabinet opponents to crucial committee meetings. On page 3, the misinterpretation of political calls for hard work.

Lord Thomas denies that he is

making specific political points. He accepts, however, that "some of my foibles, prejudices, passions and beliefs will come out even when I am talking about the eighteenth century rather than the twentieth century". On the central issue of the justification of the 1762 expedition he is more forthcoming.

The core of the story is the experience of the three Keppel brothers. George, 3rd Earl of Albemarle, commander of the enterprise, Augustus Keppel, the second-in-command of the fleet, and William, divisional general. They set off on the hazardous trip to repair their ravaged family fortunes and came back with some £160,000. The key image is the "elms" of their country estates. The massive bias in the rewards from the trip for the senior officers—a private soldier received £4 1s 8½d—is justified because otherwise no one would ever leave his elms at all. The novel's last words have its narrator, Tom Luck-smoor, who accompanied the Cuban expedition as a young boy, looking forward to the elms he may win in his life from other foreign adventures.

"I wanted to subtitle the book *The Price of Elms*, but the publishers thought it too obscure. The Keppels lost their health at Havannah and founded a dynasty that is part of our heritage. We should consider such intangible benefits when we ask if the price is worth paying."

Before the fleet sets sail, the narrator describes the sensation of "belonging to a vast movement whose strength seemed outside the personalities of the strongest characters. The expedition was to Havannah in detail." Luck-smoor notes, "but it seemed too to constitute the grand historical adventure of the English nation." "Even with hindsight he is right to see it in that way," says Thomas. "As a matter of fact it probably would have been better for England if we had kept the Caribbean and given up India. But it is wrong to look at just the big global picture."

In the closing chapters of *Havannah* Thomas draws a striking picture of the parliamentary debate in which the Earl of Bute, compromiser and court flatterer to George III, tramples over Pitt, Newcastle and their "take-and-hold" party. "To Bute," the narrator bemoans, "the defeat of such men was far more important than the defeat of Spain."

"Of course, we haven't had that debate on the Falklands yet," says Thomas cautiously, "but the elms that are taller as a result of that campaign will stay tall. And I don't think even Mrs Thatcher's fiercest Conservative critics would put her quite in the same league as Lord Bute."

*Havannah* is published tomorrow by Hamish Hamilton, price £9.95.

moreover...  
Miles Kington

## The Day of the Raj is reborn

A TV studio. Sir Robin Day sits at a desk. He is dressed in brilliant red robes, with an imposing head-dress encrusted with priceless rubies and emeralds.

Day: Hello, and welcome to Rajah's Question Time. As you know, the BBC is desperately anxious to get the licence fee doubled, and they now think that the only way to do it is to cash in on the vogue for India sweeping the media. I have my own personal feelings about this, but have been somewhat mollified at being made a rajah....

(Cut to aerial film of India. We see the vast expanses of Uttar Pradesh. Mostly Pradesh and Somewhat Pradesh.)

Voice-over: India, the land of teeming millions. There are three great faiths here; the Hindu religion, the worship of Buddha and the belief that Richard Attenborough will come back to make another film. Generations of westerners have come here in search of truth.

(Historical film sequence showing how the East India Company was formed to look for truth and enlightenment, but unfortunately found only jewels, spices and a lot of money. Later the British Army was formed to guard it. Major-General (Hip-flask remembers those days well.)

General: I remember those days well. I went out to India in 1843 and stayed right through till 1947, during which time I learnt to say "Hurry up, damn you!" in more than 4,000 dialects. Of all the Indians it was pleasure to serve over, I think I preferred the Gurkhas. When you were in a tight spot, with your back to the wall, you always knew you could turn to Johnny Gurka and say: "What's the meaning of life all about then, eh?" I think the same is true today.

(Cut to Jackie Charlton standing in a jungle clearing, wearing waders and cap.)

Charlton: Hello, well today we're going elephant shooting.

(There is a rustle in the undergrowth behind him. He whips round and fires. The assistant cameraman falls out of a bush, dead. Enter Derek Cooper.)

Cooper: Hello, I'm Derek Cooper, and one of the great Indian dishes is elephant steak. This is prepared on street corners throughout India, using 167 different spices, and is then flown to England where you can enjoy it at a restaurant not two minutes from this cinema.

(Cut to the Taj Mahal. Curly House, 235, Wandsworth Drive Road, SW13, proprietor S. Patel.)

Patel: Hello, I would like to make two things absolutely clear. One, there is no such thing as curry in India. Two, we Indians are fed up with people thinking we are all called Patel. Three, we have just closed, so clear off.

(Aerial film of the wide-open spaces of India—Uttar Pradesh, Absolute Pradesh, Bang-on Pradesh, etc.)

Voice-over: The BBC, rather like India, is a teeming sub-culture of many thousands of people, many of them living close to the breadline. Some of them are so poor they have to make programmes featuring only a chairman and two guests. But if the licence fee were doubled, their life could be transformed. Please give freely.

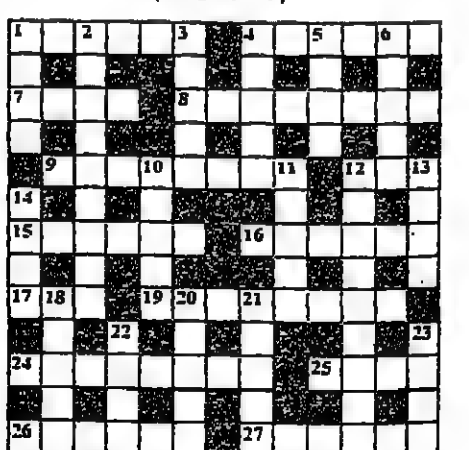
(Cut to a hand holding out a large begging bowl, marked BBC. Over it roll up the opening credits. "That's the Meaning of Life and Truth! With Esther Rantzen.")

Rantzen: Hello, and today we'll be asking the question: Was the Indian Mutiny strictly necessary? We'll be investigating a man in Delhi who sells short-weight chupatti and looking at the tragic case of Gunga Din, who may have been shot in error. But first, lots of smutty jokes from Indian newspapers. Where are my young men?

(Cut to aerial shots of thousands of Indians indulging in the midday sun. They are all extras in a new version of *Passage to India*. E. M. Forster remembers writing that book very well.)

Forster: Hello, I think if I'd known there was going to be this fashion for Indian things, I'd have set many more books in the teeming sub-continent. But there you are—who can tell the future? What is the meaning of life? What's it all about? Search me.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 274)

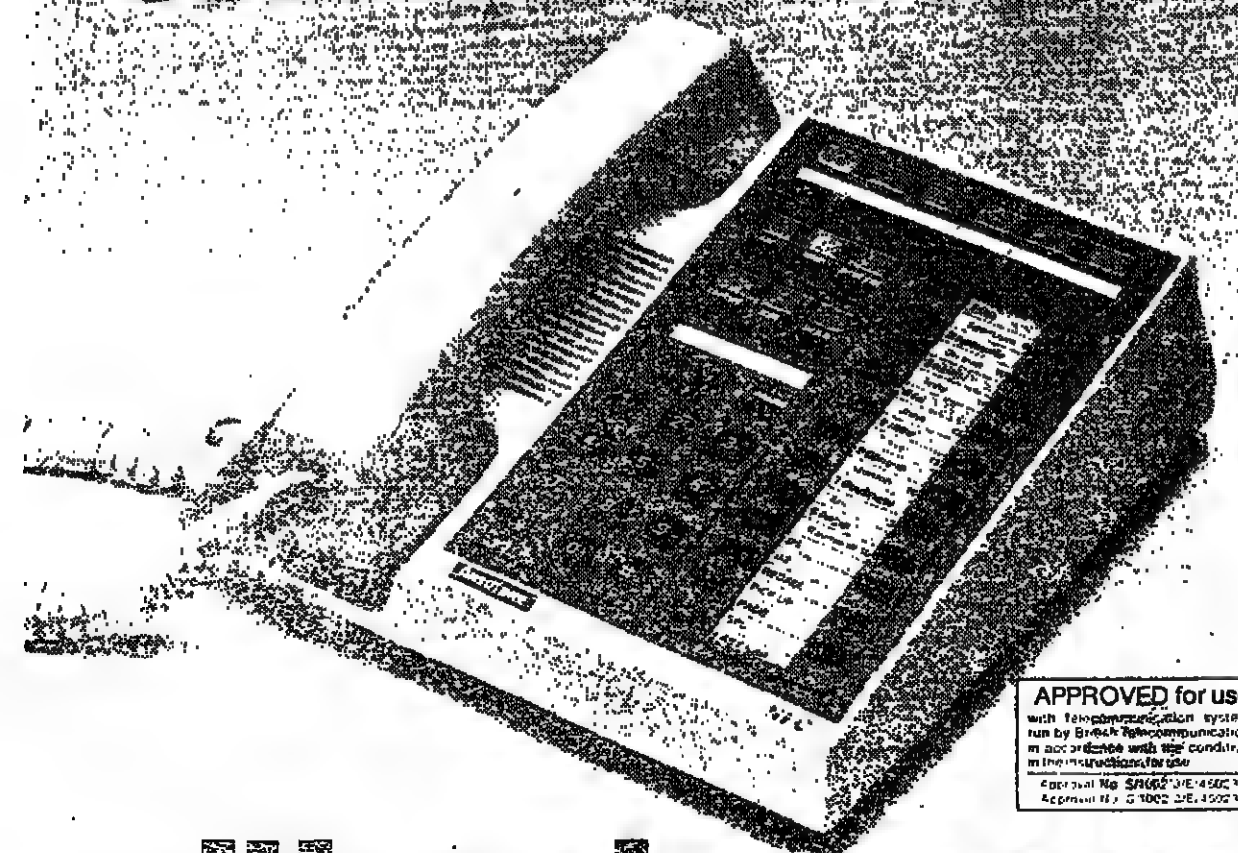


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|------------------------|----------------------------|
| ACROSS                 | DOWN                       |
| 1 Church caretaker (6) | 1 Secure (4)               |
| 4 Artillery man (6)    | 2 Foreigner hater (9)      |
| 7 Police spy (4)       | 3 Depths (5)               |
| 8 Bold opposition (8)  | 4 Blunder (3)              |
| 9 Superior goods (8)   | 5 Tidy (4)                 |
| 12 Allow (3)           | 6 Master of ceremonies (5) |
| 15 Plunder (6)         | 10 Muslim god (3)          |
| 16 Dependent state (6) | 11 Toy with (5)            |
| 17 Female deer (3)     | 12 Final resort (4,5)      |
| 19 Spanish ranch (8)   | 13 Speak (4)               |
| 24 Iberian Jews (8)    | 14 Secondhand (4)          |
| 25 Colonnaded walk (4) | 18 Open (3)                |
| 26 Fills cavity (6)    | 20 Tapestry hanging (5)    |
| 27 Be indecisive (6)   | 21 Homeric Trojan epic (5) |
|                        | 22 Male cook (4)           |
|                        | 23 Carnival (4)            |

SOLUTION TO No 273  
ACROSS 1 Egg 5 Loss 8 Pilot 9 Archipelago 11 Rag trade 13 Okaz 15 Escalator 18 Pipe 19 Aqueduct 22 New wave 23 Trunk 24 Wrap 25 Tarzan  
DOWN 2 Gulag 3 Not 4 Grandiloquent 5 Lick 6 Slicker 7 Spark 10 Cays 12 Ruck 14 Abbe 15 Empower 16 Spin 17 Stake 20 Uvula 21 Lamp 23 Tor

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## The views of the Duke of Edinburgh: Part two Whims of the rich and the perils of progress

### Polo—for the rich but not the idle



Polo is not cheap and anyone wishing to play must either be well-heeled, have a good job or be supported by an indulgent parent or sponsor. If he happens to be married, his wife needs to be very understanding and long-suffering. Wives play an extremely important part in polo and many promising young players have had the terrible choice of keeping their ponies or keeping a wife. Some lucky ones somehow manage to persuade their wives to keep, groom and train their ponies, but this ideal arrangement is understandably rare.

People with money are people who can indulge in whims, or they are liable to sudden calls to mysterious meetings in Caracas or Hongkong. Whims can include anything from a week's salmon fishing in Iceland to an African safari or a girlfriend in Miami. The problems, therefore, of getting a team together are formidable and the pre-season negotiations would do credit to any Near-eastern carpet vendor.

Should, by some remote chance, the team remain intact a certain amount of team practice should be possible. If nothing else, there will be a lot of talk about ponies, tactics and plans all washed down with suitable refreshment in the club house.

You may well believe that after all this pre-match activity the game itself is an anti-climax. Nothing could be further from the truth. Hard-lipped tycoons give every sign of extreme nervousness, elderly players with battered hats and years of experience can be seen to take a nip of something to help them along. False teeth are put away safely and every kind of body protection is fitted into place.

The match then begins and all the previous anxiety and planning, organization and practice is put to the test in 40 minutes of flashing sticks, galloping ponies, curses, bumps, shouts, hits to warm the heart and misses to chill the spine.

There are moments of awful realization. The ball is overrun by the rest of the players and there it sits rolling gently to a standstill and all you have to do is get your pony balanced and going in the right direction. You take a swing—and miss. Fortunately the game goes on and something else happens before you can think of a quick and easy way to commit suicide.

There are additional hazards in the shape of umpires. These long-suffering citizens may be close friends and boon drinking companions in normal life, but in a game they become mutinied-headed dolts, totally ignorant of the simplest rules of the game and completely blind to monstrous and blatant fouls committed by the opposition.

Shouting, which is neither warning, nor instructional, nor directed at the pony, is more or less without exception abuse. There is really not much venom in it and very frequently it is produced more by fright than by animosity.

The field of play is relatively large and with only eight players it may seem thinly populated; but collisions and falls are inevitable. They usually happen so quickly that the next thing you know is that you are ploughing a furrow through the turf with your nose or lying gazing at the hospital ceiling. Eventually the bell goes for the end and, elated or dejected, the teams ride off.

Of course, if you were fortunate enough to win, there is the momentary adulation of the crowd and probably the only admiring glance you are going to get from your wife or girlfriend that day.

### We control everything but ourselves



We have always tended to assume that any discovery or invention, so long as it was conveniently labour-saving, was naturally a boon to the world and to humanity. We measure progress by the speed of aircraft or by the number of television channels on the dial. We are obsessed by our material welfare to the exclusion of all concern for the social development of mankind. We may have discovered the existence of radio sources several million light years away with an immensely clever piece of equipment, but we continue to treat each other and all the other living things on our planet in a way which is only a bare improvement on primitive man.

At least in the primitive state mankind could only do a limited amount of damage. The same will and emotions which caused primitive man to damage and destroy are still with us today with the only difference that technology has given us vastly improved means to give expression to our anger and jealousy, our pride and covetousness. We can control everything in our world except ourselves.

I want to suggest that scientific and technological progress is not only valueless, it is actively harmful, unless it is modified or directed by a social and humanitarian outlook. Scientists and engineers must also give their attention to the really serious problems facing humanity even if it means giving up some problems which seem to be more interesting or profitable. Equally the intellectual humanist can no longer pretend that science and technology are incapable of making a valuable contribution to the progress of human civilization.

Extracts from *Mcn, Machines and Sacred Cows* by HRII Prince Philip, published next week by Hamish Hamilton, price £8.95.



## WEDNESDAY PAGE

Education today: Brian Alderson on polytechnic research and Lucy Hodges describes a change in training methods

## A modern look at folklore

Educational research, which so often seems to be devoted to an expensive redefinition of the obvious, has just had a modest creative success. It comes in the form of a 20-page, full-colour children's book called *The Tiger and the Woodpecker*, published under the unlikely imprint of the Middlesex Polytechnic.

*The Tiger and the Woodpecker* is an Indian fable about ingratitude. The bird fishes a bone out of the beast's throat and thus saves him from starving to death, but the beast fails to honour a pledge to cut the bird in on his next big kill. "You're lucky I didn't eat you alive," says he. So the bird pecks one of the tiger's eyes, and when reproached for this vengeful act he remarks philosophically: "You're lucky I didn't peck out both of them."

Now the interest attaching to this cheerful tale lies not so much in its moral as in the course of events that led the Middlesex Polytechnic to publish it. For this is just one of a large storehouse of folktales which the polytechnic has been collecting through its clumpingly-titled research project on "Reading Materials for Minority Groups".

Jennie Ingham, the research fellow who has been chiefly responsible for directing the project, had the idea of investigating what traditional stories were still being told around the hearth-sides of immigrant families. Armed with notebooks, tape recorder, and a great deal of local goodwill, she set about collecting whatever stories came to hand from some of the Greek, Turkish and Asiatic residents of the north London boroughs that make up the Middlesex Polytechnic's catchment area.

Sometimes the telling was in racy modern English, sometimes it was in a vernacular that had to be translated (among the Indian languages recorded are Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu). Tales flowed in by the

The centre pages of *The Tiger and the Woodpecker*, with the text in English and Urdu

dozen, and as news of the project spread, the number increased to hundreds.

But *The Tiger and the Woodpecker* is not just significant as an example of what this search has produced. It is also a demonstration of what can be made from the material. For Jennie Ingham was especially anxious to show that these stories might have an appeal to more people than their native audience, and this little book has been fashioned as a model for the presentation of still-current popular tales.

It was planned from the start to measure up to the standards set by such commercial series as Picture Puffins: it was given

attractive, somewhat Wildsmith-style illustrations by a brand-new illustrator - Judy Cobden; and its production by the polytechnic's design department incorporated a novel double-setting of the text. Not only does the English translation appear in tandem with the original Hindi; but also the polytechnic has produced English editions linked to the languages of the six other participants in the project.

In its finished form, the book is healthy proof of the vigour that still lies in traditional tales. It is not, though, the start of a large publishing venture by an academic institution. Although Jennie Ingham now has a remarkable collection of narra-

tives on paper, on tape and even on video, she is expecting that these will be made over to trade publishers, more accustomed to the harrowing business of book production than a polytechnic. Moreover, with this success, the funding of the project has been continued.

A considerable investment, especially of time, had been made in the gathering and the multiple translation of these stories, and the thought naturally arose that equivalent material was present beyond the borders of Haringey and Barnet. (And who is to say that Geordie tales should not figure as significantly as Gujarati ones?) In consequence, some different research

is on hand to find out ways and means of setting up a National Community Folklore Centre, where the results of work like this can be deposited, codified, and brought into a relationship with other folklore studies. Put like that, it sounds a shade dusty, but *The Tiger and the Woodpecker* is a token that, so far as Jennie Ingham is concerned, it is the life of the tales that comes first.

*The Tiger and the Woodpecker*, retold by Aruna Aditya and illustrated by Judy Cobden, is available from the Middlesex Polytechnic at 114 Chase Side, London N14 5PN. Price £1 post free.

## New lessons for headteachers

For years headteachers were sovereign rulers, virtually unchallenged by parent, teacher or child, and able to run their schools without too much hard thought or official interference.

Until the 1970s the birthrate was rising, so they knew their pupils would keep on coming. Britain's economic performance was not yet a cause for earnest discussion. No one seemed too concerned about whether children were learning the right things or to a required standard. Consensus reigned in the education world.

Now all has changed. Today headteachers are beset with challenges. Apart from their traditional responsibilities, such as choosing staff and arranging the timetable, they have to do a lot more.

One of their most important tasks is to communicate, at a range of levels. One minute they will be reprimanding or comforting a child in trouble, the next trying to persuade staff to innovate. They have to wheedle money out of a tight-fisted local authority, persuade parents to send their children to that particular school, head off an inquiring governor or answer questions from the local newspaper.

The beleaguered headteacher has become accountable. He or she is having to look outside the school and address a wide and predominantly ill-informed audience. It is not an enviable task, and it is not surprising that headteachers need help with it.

That is why Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, has announced - under pressure from the Secondary Heads Association - the setting up of a national centre in Bristol for training headteachers, and the injection of £5m over the next three years into the training of heads and senior staff.

Courses are now running throughout the country. The one I went on in Cambridge, was for primary heads organized by the Institute of Education in conjunction with five local education authorities, Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk, Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire.

I wanted not only to get a feel of the courses but also to find out about the headteacher's job. The group of 17 were on a one-term course in which they were learning about the structure of local government, national issues in education

and, significantly, how companies are managed.

One of their tasks was to visit a school, interview the head and discover what he or she saw as the role of the head, deputy head and other staff with responsibilities. This unlocked a can of worms at one infant's school in East Anglia whose head complained that her deputy and the rest of the staff opposed her at every opportunity, refusing to do dinner duties. The deputy, it transpired, had applied for the headship but failed to get it.

This head had stuck a piece of leather over the keyhole of her office door because she thought the deputy was eavesdropping on her conversation. She also locks all her drawers after having found the deputy rooting through her cupboards in search of books.

Another head was told: "I'll see you off the premises as I have seen off two other heads." Mr Howard Bradley, director of the Cambridge Institute, said most schools contain a fifth column which opposes the head.

But staff can be brought round and major changes can be wrought. With one of the heads on the course, I visited a middle school in Norwich whose energetic new head, John Knowles, advocates corporate management. The school had been neglected previously, he said. "Problems of communication were rife because it was run on the basis of rumour and what the children wanted to do. I have now got a structure."

In a matter of 10 weeks he had secured agreement for an £80,000 modernization programme for the school buildings. He had got rid of two teachers and was hoping two more would go. He had introduced corporate management, and a new curriculum was being drawn up for each subject.

It had been heavy going. "But too many of us are prepared to sit back and not fight. Staff development and training for teachers is vital. There is still strong support here for the old style of head who stays in his office and doesn't involve himself."

"But there is a growing feeling that the head needs to be around, and about the school, needs to reach, to develop teachers' management and teaching skills and to organize a structure for when he is not there."

## ALAN FRANKS' DIARY

## The little plighter does it again

My daughter announces that she is to be married in the spring. Early matrimony is often a sign of domestic disaffection, and since the combined years of the bride and groom amount to ten, there are clearly two very disturbed households (one of them is mine) in the Richmond area. There is also the pressing question of where the young couple will live, how they will meet the mortgage repayments, who will go out to work and who stay in full-time education. Since job opportunities for children have never really recovered since Victorian times, some sort of parental subsidy seems inescapable.

The groom-to-be is named Richard. He is very well groomed for his age and should have no problems getting a job with the council's parks department. In one sense the boy is quite a catch, as his father is something very big in re-insurance. As I

see it, one of the main problems is that Richard, charitably described by his teachers as "gregarious", has already plighted his troth to three other girls between the ages of four and six, one of whom lives in our road. I foresee the first real test of liberal parenthood. Three days to go until the Parents/Teacher Association dance in the church hall. These are guilt-inducing affairs, even before they take place. There is no limit to the amount of voluntary work one could undertake in the way of bread-baking, bar-manning and ticket-selling. Here lies the public face of Good Parenthood, and I have often suspected that some one day was very competitive when it comes to scoring Brownie points in this department. I freely admit that these are the sour grapes of the sluggard. New light on the marriage question. It is not my daughter



who is marrying Richard, but rather he who is marrying her. This is a more important technicality than it sounds, for were it the other way round, then apparently custom would dictate that she go and live with his family. As it is we get him. As far as I am concerned this is far too literal a form of not losing a daughter but gaining a son, and I trust he will very soon be shown up for the trainee bigamist he is.

I might have guessed. Petranello, now four months pregnant, and my horrible lawyer friend Parvis Maitland are in the forefront of PTA activism. Everyone knows she should be taking it easy (sic) has told them so herself, but marriage to the public service has proved too tempting a role. He, meanwhile, has grabbed the most influential walk-on part, and will be

conducting the raffle draw. This is a classic piece of type-casting, given that he loves to hold the fortunes of others in the palm of his hand.

A letter with a Beckenham postmark. No prizes for guessing the authorship. It comes from Great Aunt Sylvia, who is threatening to visit. It would be quite wrong to attach any hopes of enjoyment to these occasions, and so I have long given up doing so. Within the spectrum of social functions they occupy a place somewhere between an auditors' tour and a Combined Cadet Force inspection day. Shortly before her arrival - by which I mean minutes rather than days - broken toys are scooped by the armful into the cupboard under the stairs, soiled baby gear is stamped into the brimming bin.

We all know that these visits are really nothing more than fact-finding missions from which damning data can be garnered and then rediffused to the far-flung arms of the extended family, the better to champion Old Values. So why do we bother to play along? I suspect that if I knew, I wouldn't be writing this.

To the PTA dance. Now, I know very well that the current state of popular music falls into disrepair when you reach the age of 35, but this does not stop me from being deeply puzzled by the performance of the home-grown band, Kandl and the Cassidies. They are churning out a terrible post-punk cacophony from the dais, yet somehow it seems to be getting through to a quarter of grandparents over in the far corner of the hall. Beneath the blurred decibels and the feedback howling from the bank of speakers, they have discovered a rhythm to which they can do the Charleston.

Parvis Maitland is praying silence for the raffle draw. My goodness, he loves the sound of his own voice. He dunks his fat fist into the drum and draws out ticket number 365. Who should step up bearing for the madrigal of champagne, but Mrs P Maitland! Suddenly a pall of corruption falls on this innocent gathering.

## An expensive taste, but well worth it

Three pence a pint is what Isabella Beeton reckoned to spend on making oxtail soup, and she did not stint on the ingredients.

One-hundred and twenty-five years later, oxtails cost 89p a pound and my recipe works out at £1.38 per pint. It is neither cheap nor quick to make. But it is worth every penny.

The finished soup should be quite fatless. And as oxtail is a very fatty cut of meat, this is most easily achieved by allowing the soup to become cold enough for the fat to solidify, so that it can be lifted off. This means stirring the soup the day before it is needed, which improves the taste too.

**Oxtail soup**  
Serves four to six  
1.35kg (3lbs) oxtail cut in 5cm/2in lengths  
4 tablespoons beef dripping  
680g (1½ lbs) onions, chopped  
300ml (½ pint) red wine  
2.25 litres (4 pints) beef broth or water  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper  
1 stick cinnamon  
2 bay leaves

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Small piece of orange or tangerine peel  
4 tablespoons dry sherry

Put the oxtail pieces in a bowl, cover them with cold water, and leave them to soak for at least an hour. Rinse and dry them well.

Melt the dripping in a frying pan and when it is hot, brown the oxtail quickly on all sides. Transfer the meat to a large heavy pan. Add the onion to the frying pan and reduce the heat. Cook the onion until it is transparent and almost tender. While the onion is frying add the red wine to the oxtail and boil it on a high heat until the wine has reduced to a few spoonfuls. Now add the onions to the oxtail and the broth or water. Season lightly with salt and pepper and add the cinnamon, bay leaves and peel. Simmer, uncovered, until the meat is falling off the bones - about four hours.

Strain the soup into a large bowl or a clean pan. Allow the oxtail to cool a little, then carefully pick off all the lean meat. Discard the bones and gristle. Chop the meat finely and return it to the soup. Allow the soup to become completely cold so that the fat solidifies on its surface. It can then be removed and discarded.

Just before serving, reheat the soup (there should be about 2 litres/3½ pints). Adjust the seasoning and add the sherry. Classic French onion soup is another dish that is satisfying enough to be almost a meal in itself. But there is no point in

THE TIMES  
COOK



Shona Crawford Poole

trying to make it in a tearing hurry. Although the ingredients could not be simpler - onions, butter, stock or water, bread and cheese - the way the onions are cooked very slowly at the beginning is what gives the soup its special sweetness. A whole panful of thinly sliced onion rings is cooked slowly in butter until they are meltingly tender and only then, on a slightly higher heat, are they allowed to caramelize enough to give the soup its distinctive taste and rich colour. At this stage the onions must be watched carefully because if they brown too darkly the soup will be flavoured with bitter, burnt caramel, which is not the idea at all.

**French onion soup**  
Serves four  
900g (2lbs) large onions  
56g (2ozs) butter

1.2 litres (2 pints) beef stock or water  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper  
4 or 8 slices of French bread about 1cm (½ inch) thick  
4 or 8 tablespoons finely grated Gruyère and Parmesan cheeses mixed

Peel the onions and slice them thinly in rings. Melt the butter in a large sauté or frying pan and add all the onions. Cook them, covered, on a low heat for about 30 minutes, or until they are very tender.

Then raise the heat and remove the lid. Cook the onions, stirring frequently, until they are a rich golden brown, but still soft and on no account crisp. This will probably take a further 30 minutes or so. Add the stock, bring to the boil and simmer the soup for about 15 minutes. Skim off the fat and season to taste with salt and pepper.

The soup is finished by floating the bread on its surface. In an ideal world shrimp bisque would always be made with freshly caught raw shrimps. Sadly these are not a commodity that everyone has access to. The cooked and frozen shrimps still in their shells, which fishmongers thaw (or not as the case may be) and sell loose, will probably have to do. Double or treble the quantities to serve four or six.

**Shrimp bisque**  
Serves two  
225g (8oz) cooked shrimps or prawns in their shells

30g (1oz) butter  
1 small onion, finely chopped  
1 small carrot, finely chopped  
1 tablespoon cognac  
4 tablespoons white wine  
450ml (¾ pint) light fish stock or water  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper  
1 sprig thyme  
2 or 3 sprigs of parsley  
4 tablespoons of double cream  
1 egg yolk

Peel shrimps. Finely chop their meat and set it aside. Break up the shells, heads and all, with a pestle and mortar, grinding them very finely. Melt the butter in a heavy pan and add the onion, carrot and thyme and sauté for 10 minutes. Add the cognac, wine, fish stock or water, a little salt and pepper and the thyme and parsley. Bring to the boil and simmer the soup for a further 10 minutes.

Pass the soup through a fine sieve into a clean pan, or line any sieve with muslin or cheesecloth and pass the liquid through it to remove all the pieces of shell. Add the finely chopped shrimp meat and heat it through. Stir the egg yolk into the cream and stir this liaison into the hot, but not boiling, soup. Heat it carefully without boiling until the soup thickens a little. Check the seasoning and serve it immediately.

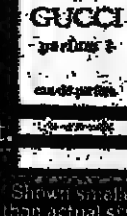
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# THE TIMES DIARY

## The puck stops here

Ice hockey players are not noted for their gentleness and tolerance, but Norway's unsuccessful Olympic team seem to have taken things a bit far even for a sport that thrives on violence. Drowning their sorrows in a Sarajevo restaurant, the Norwegians got into an argument over the bill, with the result that manager Gier Myhre threw a punch at netminder Jim Martinson, who cracked his head against a table and had to be taken home on a stretcher. The penalty suggested by sports authorities in Norway - where alcohol is controlled by a state monopoly - is that their international should be banned from drinking while abroad. It sounds like typical Scandinavian overkill, until you realize that what the players were fighting over was a mere seven kroner (about 50p).

Despite conciliatory noises from Buenos Aires, our lads in the Falklands remain resolutely alert. The other day an unidentified blip appeared on the radar and was promptly dispatched. It turned out to be a large bird. I hope it wasn't an albatross.

## Royal touch

Alan Eden-Green, who retired recently as director of the Industry and Parliament Trust, has been appointed the first honorary fellow of the trust, which exposes peers and MPs to the realities of industrial life through studying courses culminating in fellowships. Eden-Green's response was rather more parliamentary than industrial. At a House of Lords dinner he presented Lord Irving, chairman of the trustees, with a gavel and block made of oak from panelling in the old Commons and set in mahogany from the most exclusive room in the Lords - the sovereign's lavatory.

## By proxy

Sir John Junor, editor of the *Sunday Express*, has missed the opportunity to crown his long and distinguished career with the rectification of his alma mater, Glasgow University. Apparently the great man was too busy to sign the letter of consent for his nomination and left that task to one of his minions. The rules require a personal signature, however, so Sir John's nomination has been declared invalid. The remaining nominees are Yasser Arafat, the comedian Rikki Fulton; Matthew Lygate, who recently ended a 12-year jail sentence for bank robbery on behalf of the Scottish Workers' Republican Army; the Lord Provost of Glasgow, Dr Michael Kelly; Jeffrey Archer and Menzies Campbell, former Scottish Liberal chairman and Olympic sprinter.

## Lingua franca

On one thing at least, the recently warring Sinhalese and Tamils of Sri Lanka can agree - the value of the English language. Last week, three seminars on the role of English in Sri Lankan life, organized by the English-Speaking Union, drew capacity crowds and speakers from all communities on the beautiful but sometimes troubled island. Then on Monday, President Jayawardene, patron of the island's ESU branch set up two years ago, gave his approval to an ESU-sponsored programme of English teaching throughout the country, particularly in rural areas. The ESU now hopes for similar success in another sensitive island, Malta, where it is in contact with Dom Mintoff with a view to setting up a branch.



Barry Fantoni

## Cooking the books

Chefs are falling over their pots and pans to join in a tribute to the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, this summer to Antoine Carême, born 200 years ago on June 8, Carême who cooked for Napoleon, Talleyrand, the emperors of Austria and Russia and our own Prince Regent - is regarded as the father of modern French cuisine. The idea of a Brighton banquet weekend to celebrate his bicentenary was conceived by an American, David Segal, a visiting professor at Oxford and collector of historic cookbooks. Invitations to the leading chefs of France were sent by Anton Morimano of the Dorchester, and the response has been terrific. Among those expected are Michel Guérard, Alain Senderens, Paul Bocuse and Roger Vergé. The Parisian pâtissier Gaston Lenôtre will model a sugar statue and Michel Roux, Britain's own *maitre d'oeuvre* de France in pâtisserie plans to recreate some 15 of Carême's famous 50 *pièces montées* castles of cold buffet. It should, says Segal, be "as photogenic as all hell".

Caliban lives. I deduce this from the goings-on at the Royal Festival Hall and its two adjacent concert-rooms, the Queen Elizabeth Hall and Purcell Room: all three are owned by the GLC, as the heirs of the LCC which built them, and not long ago the rulers of the GLC sacked the manager and took over the direct running of the halls themselves.

One of the earliest fruits of the change was the scandal of the Soviet propaganda exhibition staged there (at a peppercorn rent); when the details were being worked out, the GLC did not even insist on being allowed to stage a reciprocal exhibition in Moscow, so eager were they to let Londoners know that the Soviet Union is a peace-loving democracy, brimming over with freedom, prosperity and scrupulous concern for the neighbours. (Mind you, a GLC-sponsored exhibition about us would probably have depicted little but accounts of the oppressed wage-slaves in today's Britain and of their struggle to obtain the vote and the right to form trade unions, with huge oil-paintings by Mr Michael Meacher of the said wage-slaves being battered by police wearing swastika armbands.)

Ever since, the GLC has been resisting, by evasion and delay, any attempt to let Londoners see the other side of the argument, and even now, when they have at last made a half-hearted apology for the Soviet show, they have made it clear that they will not permit any serious or general criticism of the Soviet Union on premises under their control: their only concession is to allow a group working on behalf of Jews who wish to leave the Soviet Union to participate in an Amnesty International exhibition.

At the same time, the new rule at the RFF has brought some substantial improvements - the very attractive liveliness that the foyers now display, largely owing to the outside service provided in the buffets by the new caterers, and the improved box office arrangements. (There are the usual rubbishy "souvenirs" on sale, of course, but even these are more than set off by the excellent bookshop.)

All the same, whatever happens in the surroundings of a concert-hall, good or bad or both, it will and must be judged by what happens inside it. So far, nothing very different has taken place: the GLC have put on various performances and exhibitions in furtherance of their political beliefs (though none, of course, furthering contrary views), but the music remains much the same. As far as I know, there have been no suggestions that bookings

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

# And in the blue corner, Monty Verdi

will be more readily accepted if the programmes contain more of the works of Alan Bush or loyal contemporary Soviet composers, nor has anybody hinted that putting on performances by Rostropovich, Ashkenazy and other defectors from their glorious Soviet fatherland will be looked on askance. I think I detect a slight tendency to dilute the contents of programmes with a higher proportion of very familiar works, but that, if it is happening, could well be defended (if indeed, it needs to be defended at all) as sensible commercial practice by the promoters.

Now, however, Caliban has emerged from his lair, blinking at the light and mumbling his watchword: elitist. Mr Peter Pitt, chairing of the GLC committee under whose auspices the South Bank halls are run, has determined that "We want more working class and black audiences". It is a laudable desire, and he is not the first to feel it; the WEA and many similar organizations were conceived in the same spirit. But there is one great, and terrible, difference between the pioneers of art for the masses and the present attitude of the GLC. The former wanted - it was, in many cases, the main purpose of their existence - to illumine the lives of the poor, the uneducated, the despairing, by making sure that they had cheap access to the best that art and craft had created throughout the ages. The wiser among these pioneers knew that those who availed themselves of what was offered would always be a minority, as indeed they have always been a minority among the rich, the educated and the confident; but the pioneers, from William Morris to Arnold Wesker, as they laboured in this field, have always preferred to light candles rather than curse the darkness.

But they never wanted to burn people with the candles. Mr Pitt says "I don't think many people from my constituency of Hounslow go to the South Bank". If not, it is a pity, but it is a pity because the musical glories to be found on the South Bank - at, incidentally, ludicrously low prices (£2.80 for the *Missa Solemnis* under Haitink, £1.50 for Ida Haendel playing the Beethoven Violin Concerto, £2.30 for Bach's *St John Passion*) - would enrich the lives of the people of Hounslow, or even the life of Mr Pitt, just as much as they enrich mine.

Mr Pitt is not willing to go out and persuade his constituents to try a spot of Chopin, Mozart and other long-haired intellectuals. No, his approach can be understood from the following statement of his credo: "There are class and race institutionalized barriers here that need to be broken". Before a claim as mad and pitiful as that (what West Indian, what labourer, has ever been refused service at the RFF Box Office, or sneered at by the white toffs in the next seat?), Beethoven himself would have been tempted to erase the bit about *Seid umschlungen, Millionen* in the Ninth Symphony. But Mr Pitt's intention, which might well have struck Goethe as a bit extreme, is now clear. If the masses will not go to art, so much the worse for art. *Delenda est Carthago*.

Therefore, it is announced, we are to have wrestling and snooker at the Festival Hall; parallel delights are being devised for the QEII and the Purcell Room. When the four principal symphony orchestras were asked to think of ways to increase South Bank audiences, the management of the Royal Philharmonic suggested bussing in factory workers, and the LPO proposed to add the Festival Hall to the Albert Hall as a venue for its industrial concerts. But such plans were rejected, and soon the grunts and groans of the judo-artists will mingle with the click of the balls on the green baize, in place of the sounds that South Bank audiences since 1951 and indeed audiences all over the world for half

a thousand years, have been used to. Well, well, we must move with the times. But we need not move with them before expressing our opinion of them. The contempt of the far left for the people whose interests they claim to have at heart in notorious, at election-time the workers have been "brainwashed by the media"; at public libraries they cannot be trusted to reject distasteful attitudes, so books containing these must be censored off the shelves; in their trade unions they might vote the wrong way if they had secret ballots for their officials, so they must not be allowed to have such ballots; in the Festival Hall foyer they might form views unfavourable to the Soviet Union if such views are on offer there, so offer them access to favourable ones only; and upstairs in the auditorium let them be content with the pig-swall that is all they deserve or are capable of enjoying.

Surely this must be the only era in history, other than that of Nazi Germany, in which excellence is not something to admire and strive for, to encourage and to share, but something to hate and mock, to root out and destroy. In education, the whole thrust of the left is to pull down anything that might set standards for emulation. In housing, the local authority that insists that all front doors must be the same colour is driven by the same hunger for uniformity among the masses. In politics, the growing intolerance on the left - displayed in the hounding of Labour MPs who will not toe the new line and the shouting down of any opposing voice at meetings - has reached epidemic proportions. And in art, anything that has provided for human beings, and can still provide, a literally infinite breadth and depth of beauty, passion, enlightenment, understanding, inspiration and balm is "elitist", and must be rejected.

Caliban lives indeed, and he was always averse to seeing his face in the mirror. But now he has people to smash the mirror for him, and the seven years' bad luck that breaking a mirror entails will be borne by us, too: the Festival Hall interior will have to be practically rebuilt for an evening of wrestling or snooker, all at prodigious cost. But Caliban now has unlimited access to our money, and unlimited willingness to spend it for his own dark ends. Art on the South Bank, it seems, may have to go into exile, like the government of a nation subjugated by tyranny, until the GLC is swept away and the free republic of true civilization restored.

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Phillip Whitehead

# Mrs Thatcher's leg before

In a quiet moment on June 9 last year Mrs Thatcher was cornered by her daughter Carol for a frank and fearless interview. Part of it went like this: Carol: "Do you ever find the limitations and restrictions on normal things you can do too much to bear?" Mrs T: "Not too much to bear. No, one just has to get used to it. You know that if I go shopping it's not a quiet operation."

Carol: "That's for sure." Mrs Thatcher's shopping trip to Oman - selling, not buying - was not a quiet operation either, to her distress. As she sees it, she "batted for Britain" with the Omanis. She was briefed to raise three possible areas of involvement in Sultan Qaboos's university project. She did so. Her personal style means that she is seen as an effective saleswoman for British enterprise abroad, and a guarantor of the consequent expenditure at home if the orders come in. No harm in that. Was there any harm in Mr Mark Thatcher also being on the scene with a financial interest in the firm principally involved? Why should it be public disquiet about that? Is Mr Thatcher's consultancy, like his sister's journalism, any more than the deployment of modest talents to maximum advantage, in ways which are no concern of Downing Street?

The Prime Minister would answer all these questions in the negative. She is fiercely protective of her family. It conflicts with what is otherwise one of her most formidable features, which even her political opponents respect: her devastating candour. Only on this issue has the candour vanished. She has clammed up instead. In doing so she has turned the Omani affair from a small distraction to a major irritant. In all honesty, she would think again. All prime ministers know that there are limitations to what their immediate family can do, which they transgress at their peril. No one is suggesting that Mrs Thatcher goes out of her way to secure business commissions for her son. She may have been as surprised as her officials when he turned up in Oman in April 1981. But it strains credulity to believe that she did not ask him what he was doing there, and thus knew the connection with Cernation or its subsidiaries, when the firm was the only British bidder for the university contract which she was discussing with Sultan Qaboos. This link with Cernation was subsequently denied, in the face of strenuous press inquiries, until Mr Thatcher himself confirmed it in the *The Sunday Times*.

The reason for such reticence, and the level or levels of his involvement, remain unclear, as does the financial rewards which accrued. But it does not really matter whether Mr Thatcher was paid £3,000 or £300,000 for his role as a fixer. Had

he been a consultant engineer on the project, or an academic on secondment at a later stage, his precise role and salary could have been established. Because they are not, rumour fester.

The Prime Minister and her advisers have dismissed the matter in two terse letters to Mr Peter Shore. The letters say merely that she did not mention Cernation by name, or any other company, in Oman. In the context, there was no other company involved. There is no allegation of discrimination in favour of Cernation. The question is rather about Cernation's unpublishable and temporary employee. I cannot believe that the Prime Minister misunderstands it.

It is this: what should British ministers, at home or abroad, do when they are pushing for contracts - however valuable to Britain - if they know, or discover, that a close relative stands to gain? It is not a question which evaporates if the close relative turns up unasked and unexpected.

The answer should be unequivocal, unless we wish to slip into the habits of less scrupulous chimes. Caesar's son should be above suspicion. Public interest requires its ruthless separation from private gain, however that sets apart the family connexions, even discriminating against them. The proper course for Mrs Thatcher, when her egregious son turned up in Oman, would have been to send him packing, with the advice that he should earn his money elsewhere. He has time enough. When a mother's active political career is over he will still no doubt grace many a board as Viscount Grantham. But no action was taken in 1981. What happened eventually got out.

A less hubristic administration than this one now is would have limited the damage. There could have been a straightforward explanation from Mark Thatcher and an acknowledgment from Downing Street that if there had been any error or misunderstanding a clear statement of principle on family links and conflict of interests would clear it up for the future. No one believes that the Prime Minister is either a fool or a knave. She knows that limitations and restrictions attach to her office.

She may resent the fact that her son's and her husband's business deals are matters of public interest, and that they occasionally surface in a froth of unfavourable publicity. No prime minister for the past 50 years has been in this position with regard to his closest relations, living at Downing Street. There has to be a ring fence between what they do, as private individuals, and what she does, in her office of state. That requires the private deployment of that candour and courage which have been part of Mrs Thatcher's political style. Without it the uncase will continue.

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

# The incidentals that all add up

Last week's annual report from HMG has had a rather indifferent press. Worse than it deserved, I thought. True, a lot of asset sales are called in aid to close the gap between taxes and expenditure, and the Commons Treasury Committee - and it is not alone - thinks they should not be. True, the assumptions about the bill make the bill look optimistic. True, also, that local authority spending is set to shrink to an extent that defies all recent experience.

But against all that the Chancellor and the Chief Secretary have built in large reserves for error. Given a rise in output and tax revenues at a much more modest rate than what is presently in prospect, the Chancellor should still have room to cut our taxes or his borrowing, or both, in years to come.

However, like Robin Cook on this page yesterday I have been looking at the White Paper to see what it tells us about longer-term trends. Not sharing the exasperation of Mr Cook, and others, at the Treasury's well-known inability to spot the difference between current spending and "productive investments" like Concorde and the Humber Bridge, I have concentrated on some of the less expected items. Compared with this Government's first spending plans back in 1980 we find that they are expecting their cash needs to have grown by 35 per cent by next April. So that is the mean. There are naturally wide disparities around it.

It is small wonder, for example, that Mrs Thatcher should be casting a steady eye on the Ministry of Agriculture. On the latest predictions, by this time next year the cost of its programmes will have gone up by 50 per cent in five years (and the bill for 1984/85 is now expected to be almost 25 per cent higher than the Treasury thought it would be only 12 months ago). The bulk of this, needless to say, is directly attributable to EEC farm support. But we cannot blame Brussels for the even bigger rise - 56 per cent - in the cost of research and advisory services. If there are worth having, surely they should be worth paying for by those who use them.

At the top of the heap are social security, law and order, and defence. Those of us in jobs should not begrudge the fact that the bill for the victims of the structural changes in our economy is expected to have risen one and a half times since

1980; and law and order and defence are Conservative priorities endorsed by the electorate. But the rise in the pay element at the Home Office - 38 per cent over a period during which the public sector wage bill is expected to have grown by 27 per cent - looks generous. And what are we to make of legal aid?

The other day that leading luminary of the solicitors' profession, Sir David Napley, told us that "almost every informed person considers that actions for defamation should be brought within the ambit of legal aid. They are not, because of the misguided belief... that the inclusion of defamation would involve an unwarranted increase in state expense".

The layman, confronted with the revelation that the cost of legal aid is expected to have risen by 70 per cent in five years, and reading that Sir David's own bill for the taxpayers of West Yorkshire for the Helen Smith inquest ran to £64 an hour (including what he calls a "mark-up" of £82 an hour), might be inclined to pray that the Treasury may misjudged.

Another unconsidered trifle that does not come cheap is democracy. By next April, the mother of Parliaments is forecast to be costing £71m a year to run - an increase of almost two thirds in five years. The nation feels itself to be two thirds better represented must be a matter of subjective judgment.

Then there is "overseas aid and other overseas services". Judging by the regular denunciations of this government's miserly attitude to its international obligations, one would expect expenditure under this heading to be on a swiftly shrinking scale. Not so: it is expected to have grown by 41 per cent. Once again payments to the EEC figure largely, but aid proper is up by more than a quarter and the cost of overseas representation has soared by almost 60 per cent. That seems a lot, when all allowance has been made for unfavourable exchange rate movements.

## Correction

The presidential election in El Salvador is on March 25, not February 25, as stated yesterday.

# Iran's classroom cannon fodder

As the Gulf war continues its savage course, Richard Dowden reports on the toll of children sent into battle for the greater glory of Khomeini



Alan Brooke

The United Nations mission due in Iran and Iraq later this week to assess civilian damage in the Gulf war will be bombarded with propaganda from both pot and kettle. Each side has declared it will stop shelling and bombing the other's civilian areas - a militarily wasteful activity - but there is no doubt that they would resume the attacks if they feared that failure to deliver ut-for-tat revenge might appear as weakness.

Neither Saddam Hussein of Iraq nor Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran has shown much regard for the sanctity of human life. The Gulf war is essentially about the political careers of these two men. Who fails, dies. Both must keep fighting to survive politically. But neither side has yet had the strength to win, so for three and a half years soldiers and sometimes civilians have been fed into the war machine in their thousands.

In October 1982 an Iraqi major in the front line near Khanaqin told me: "The Iraqis send in waves of children. They use them instead of tanks."

"We captured 34 of them just south of Tikrit. The youngest was about eight. He cried for his mother. The troops were shocked when they discovered they had been killing children. I have never captured an Iranian officer. They force the children to clear the minefields."

In a Tehran hospital a year later I met children like those the major had spoken of, some of them visibly the victims of his artillery. Ward after ward was filled with rows of young men lying quietly, some with eyes closed, others staring at the ceiling, legs or arms in traction, chests or heads bandaged.

There are no precise figures, but casualties on both sides could total half a million. In that hospital you could feel that monstrous oblivion of lives.

Abbas Rajabzadeh, at 20, was one of the older ones. Two days before a bullet had passed through his pelvis, smashing his spinal cord. "I had gone forward to defuse a mine - I had two sharp sticks for finding them." Was that the usual method?

It's not a lot of bottle, but I think that we can take the matter of marbles a stage further. The question is how do we come to say that somebody has lost his or her marbles; and are the marbles referred to thought of as rattling around the head, or somewhere lower down the body?

I have been sent persuasive examples of marbles used as rhyming slang for testicles, in the manner of raspberry, butcher's, berk, scarpier, loaf and ginger, as in "he's a bit ginger". In this sense the rhyme is with "marble halls", as in "I dreamt I dwelt in marble halls" from Balfe's *The Bohemian Girl*. This explanation sheds no light on the origin of marbles in the sense of brains. I have had several letters from the North of England suggesting that these marbles are an anglicized pronunciation of the French *meubles*. In both Yorkshire

"That is the way we find the mines, by pressing the sticks into the ground. Then the bullet hit me."

Ghassem Ardastani, much younger, was in the Basij, the Islamic volunteer force. His leg had been shattered by shrapnel at the battle for Panjeh. He said he had been at the front a year and had lost about 15 friends in that time. What did his mother feel about it? "My mother is happy for me to go." What would he do when he left school? "I want to go back to the front."

Akbar Swaravara, also a volunteer, was barely 15 when he went to the front. He had been in hospital for 13 months. He was carrying a rocket launcher when he was hit in both legs. One had been amputated; the other was infected.

Although children are obviously involved, it may be more accurate to say that the Iranian government allows them to fight rather than forces them. The Khomeini regime is loath to stand in the way of a young man who wants to go to heaven, and death at the front is meriting instant salvation.

It is also clear that tactics differ little from the western front offensives of the First World War. Large numbers of lightly equipped troops, often the young volunteers,

push forward in waves two or three hundred at a time, only sometimes preceded by an artillery bombardment and rarely given air cover.

I also saw evidence in the hospitals that Saddam Hussein is playing dirty. I, and a number of British doctors visiting Tehran, were convinced that Iraq is using some form of mustard gas. As one diplomatic source said, "It is far more effective than a lethal agent; it fills hospital beds, affects people who handle victims, forces the enemy to spend large sums on protective clothing but disperses from the battlefield quickly enough to allow the users to take territory."

There were civilian casualties in the hospital wards too. A 15-year-old girl from Gilangbar had been walking home from school with friends last October when they saw six airplanes. "We thought they were Iranian, but then three of them started shooting at the streets and two dropped bombs. My sister and three others were killed." She lay with both legs in plaster, her face and arms scarred.

Other visitors to Iran have been shown towns heavily damaged by Soviet-built short-range Scud B missiles. One lurid pamphlet produced by the Iraqis contains photograph of dismembered bodies

of children at a school at Behbahan, said to have been hit by a missile last October.

Saddam Hussein wants a short, sharp punch below the belt which he claims to believe will make Iraqis see sense and reject Khomeini.

Khomeini wants a long war which will keep his revolution at boiling point at home, wear out Iraq's resources and encourage the Iraqis to rise up and overthrow Saddam Hussein.

In fact each leader is far more secure than the other likes to pretend. Nothing short of natural death or assassination will fundamentally change the leadership of either country.

Both speak the language of Armageddon from time to time; Iraq threatening to bomb Kharg Island and Iran threatening to close the Gulf. These dire warnings gain little prominence because at least they provide something new to say about the war, but military and political analysts tend to dismiss them as rhetoric. Neither side has yet been able to cut or even grasp the other's jugular.

Meanwhile the young men slog it out on the barren battlefields, and this week the graveyards and hospitals of both countries will again be overflowing with the victims.

There's not a lot of bottle in such etymological speculations. Which brings us back to that puzzling phrase at present. This is partly brought about by the Milk Marketing Board's advertising campaign about gotta lotta bottle.

As often, the slang is not new, but a revival which has slightly modified its meaning. In *The Swell's Night Guide*, published in 1846, "no bottle" is defined as meaning no good or useless, with this example: "She thought it would be no bottle; cos her rival would go in a buster." Today bottle is used to mean something like courage or firmness or resolve. To have a lot of bottle is to have what used to be described as a lot of spunk. But whence the bottle, and therefore? More rhyming slang, would you say? If so, what is the rhyme?

New words for old, by Philip Howard

# No, I'm still chairy

and Lancashire an elderly person who is still with-it can be said to have all his/her chairs at 'ome.

The suggested scenario goes like this. Lancashire woman enquires to Canada and marries French Canadian. The scene is probably set in Quebec. Lancashire woman comments to a friend that she has all her chairs at home. Friend subsequently behaves in foolish manner. Husband, with imperfect command of Lancashire idiom, says that friend seems to have lost her *meubles*.

In support of this theory we can cite the German slang about somebody who is lacking a penny in

the shilling, "he hasn't got everything in the cupboard." The *meubles* explanation is ingenious, charming, and I don't believe a word of it. It is too tidy by half.

The London slang for somebody who has lost his marbles used to be that he had a screw loose, or was not quite the ticket. My impression is that both these phrases sound old-fashioned today. A more recent American idiom says that he is not playing with a full deck. The most modern slang for the condition is that somebody has toys in the attic. It comes from the Rockpeak of the teenage revolution.





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## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Multinational Force is no more. Britain's gallant hundred were whisked out of Beirut on the very first day of the present fighting. Now the Italians have gone, making the victory sign (victory?), and the Americans are on their way to the ships. The French alone are holding out for a UN force to replace them, but even they have given up supporting President Gemayel. "France is always on the winning side," say the Christians bitterly.

It was all a misunderstanding really. The West went into Beirut thinking it would be accepted as a neutral force to hold the ring. Instead it found itself lumbered with the role of protector of Maronite power, engaged in a trial of wills with the Syrians and their allies which it never stood any chance of winning. If Israel with its much more immediate interest in Lebanon had found the going too rough, what chance was there that states a thousand or more miles away, which did not know what they were fighting for or indeed whether they were supposed to be fighting at all, would stay the course?

So Syria and Israel are left alone with the Lebanese. Israel has washed its hands of the Gemayel family, no longer seeks or believes in a strong and friendly Lebanese state, but remains acutely apprehensive about the consequences of a Syrian victory. Syria, having got rid of the Multinational Force without making a single concession, may now believe it can do the same to the Israelis.

Certainly Israeli ambitions in Lebanon are much reduced. Mr Shamir no longer speaks of simultaneous Syrian withdrawal, only of improved security arrangements on Israel's northern border — arrangements he expects to make with local forces rather than with a new government in Beirut. Mr Uri Lubrani,

the architect of Israel's Lebanese policy in its post-Sharon phase, has not despaired of an understanding with the Shia community in the south which, he points out, shares Israel's interest in preventing the return of the Palestinian guerrillas, and of which (he says) the pro-Khomeini extremists are only a fraction. It appears that Israel is also seeking to strengthen the Christian element in the south by encouraging Christian villagers to move down there, away from the fighting in the Beirut region.

Further north, Israel still counts on the Druze. Her recent attacks on Druze-held areas, like the big military demonstration north of the Awali in the last two days, are not part of a belated attempt to save President Gemayel but rather a way of keeping up the pressure on the Druze not to allow "terrorists" to get near the Israeli lines. "We hope the Druze will be capable of carrying out this task," explained Mr Arens, the Israeli defence minister, in his American television interview on Sunday.

Mr Arens also said that, in the absence of a Lebanese government ready to commit itself to preventing the "terrorists" from using its territory to attack Israel, the Israeli Army would have to stay in Lebanon. It is not yet clear whether this means that he does not share his colleagues' confidence in the idea of a Shiite-Christian buffer zone, or whether he was simply warning the Syrians and their allies not to take Israeli withdrawal for granted.

Clearly they would be unwise to do that. There is indeed strong pressure for withdrawal from public opinion inside Israel. But Israel cannot just walk away from Lebanon as the West is doing. It has to get credible

guarantees of security for its northern frontier. If the Syrians really want Israel withdrawal, they will have to allow such guarantees to be given by someone — whether it is a new government in Beirut or a de facto authority in the south. If it is a government in Beirut formed under Syrian influence, then the guarantees, to be credible, would have to be underwritten by Syria herself. An understanding between Syria and Israel could be reached indirectly, through the United States, as it was in 1976.

But Syria may not want to pay this price for Israeli withdrawal. She may prefer to keep Israel on the rack in southern Lebanon, wearing her out by encouraging violent resistance against her rule and against any surrogates to whom she may hope to hand over. That would be a dangerous option because Israel could decide, if the pressure became intolerable, to respond with the all-out attack on Syria which many Israelis believe to be inevitable sooner or later in any case, because Syria's pretensions to regional hegemony are not compatible with Israeli security.

Meanwhile, Syria and her allies have unfinished business in Beirut. The problem is not so much President Gemayel as the Christian population, barricaded in East Beirut behind the "Lebanese Forces" and what is left of the army. Maronite power over the rest of Lebanon may have been broken, but Shiite-Druze power cannot be imposed on Maronite Lebanon without a bloodbath which would surpass in horror all that has gone before. President Assad is waiting for the Christians to appeal to him to save them from that, as they did in 1976. Then the search for yet another Lebanese compromise will begin.

## ALL LEFT TO MESSINA

The function of Mr Kinnock's dissertation on Europe (published in *New Socialist*) is easier to discern than its prescription for the shape of things to come. Its function is first of all to serve the party through the forthcoming elections to the European Parliament. The uncompromising thumbs down to the Community contained in Labour's most recent election manifesto and various conference resolutions, and so in some formal sense still party policy, is too negative to be comfortable for campaigning. It exposes Labour candidates to the jibe, "If your party's so keen to get out, why should we put you in?"

The election, though intrinsically marginal to British politics, is rated important as a measure of the parties' relative standing, not least the relative standing of the opposition parties. So it is sensible of Mr Kinnock to set a more positive framework within which his party's candidates can fight the election.

Looking beyond the European election, it is also in Labour's interests to have somewhere else to stand than on the narrow ground of withdrawal. For that, a position is required which combines disapproval of the present set-up with vague and preferably idealistic sounding ideas about how it might be improved. "Renegotiation" was the formula in the early 1970s. Mr Kinnock's "new Messina" succeeds it.

The aim is set down as a

wider, more generous Europe — for Europeans, not for the United States, the Soviet Union, multinationals, financiers or agribusiness (a nice touch that, the addition to the litany of a *nouveau-vagabond* demon). A Europe freed from the market economy philosophy of the Treaty of Rome; promoting cooperation not integration; pursuing "modern" full employment policies, the only clue to the meaning of which is that governments are failing to use "the mountains of money now lying idle in property or in the stock market"; blessed with accountability to democratic authority of multinational capital; yet emancipated from the directives of a Brussels bureaucracy; instigating a "new Bretton Woods" for the establishment of a new world economic order, with the United States or without it if necessary; dedicating in respect of every member state 0.7 per cent of gross domestic product to aid for the Third World; playing a role in détente and disarmament with its sights fixed on the goal of a nuclear-free Europe. The thing may be conceived as a vast canvas on which, in a few bold expressionist strokes, the full Kinnock thinking is realized.

As for structures, as for how one gets from the present Community which is no more than "a food price fixing system with a common external tariff" to that airy destination, Mr Kinnock leaves it all to Messina. It would be for her to decide how

to relate the present institutions of western Europe to "today's needs and tomorrow's responses"; whether all European parties should be invited to send representatives to a new assembly, and all European governments (not just today's) be invited to join a new European council — elsewhere in his article he notes with disapproval that the EEC excludes East European countries not only from membership but also from "political dialogue".

It is an irony Mr Kinnock will not have missed that a "new Messina", to which he looks to shake out the supranationalism of the Community and transfer power from its institutions to component governments, has long been the catchphrase of the federalists of the Community who look to the same device to perform the opposite trick.

With mounting dissatisfaction at the distortions of the Community, and with its institutions locked in a state of budgetary crisis, it is a time for big breezy thoughts about its future. You cannot quantify *elan*. Mr Harold Wilson said when he had run out of economic arguments in favour of British attachment to the Common Market. Mr Kinnock goes one better: you cannot particularize it either. Visionary vagueness assists the immediate intra-party purpose of Mr Kinnock's European essay. But if it is meant to be taken seriously elsewhere he will have to clarify its content and cope with its contradictions.

## MR BOTHA AND MR MACHEL

A new sense of realism about the political facts of life in Southern Africa is shown by the agreements on security, trade and other matters reached this week between South Africa and Mozambique. Coming hard on the heels of an agreement between South Africa and Angola, it gives reason for a degree of optimism about the southern tip of the continent, and that has been a rare commodity for some years.

There have been concessions on both sides. Mozambique came to independence in 1975 as a Marxist state, the friend and client of the Soviet Union, dedicated to the overthrow of apartheid in the republic across its border and willing to accommodate the African National Congress while it plotted subversion. On the other hand, many of those in power in South Africa thought only a few years ago that their only possible policy was to plan the overthrow of President Samora Machel. Support was provided for the MNR rebels, the economic screw was turned at times and the republic did not hesitate to send armed incursions into Mozambique territory or to plot the murder of such people as Ruth First, killed by a letter bomb in Maputo.

Now all is changed. Mozambique has been brought to its knees as much by its own ill-chosen policies, as by the successful operation of the rebels and other South African pressures. The Soviet Union, as so often in Africa, proved a broken reed in times of real trouble. And as a result it is turning west, opening its borders to South African tourists, allowing South African goods to flow through its ports, and accepting aid and investment from Pretoria. Another reward will be the ending of South African support for the rebels. A price will be restricting the activities of the ANC.

The South African concession is accepting that President Machel is here to stay, that life is possible with a Marxist, black neighbour. In one sense Mozambique is surrendering, but South Africa is displaying some magnanimity in victory. As with the agreement on the other side of the continent, there are gains for all sides in the conclusion of a deal.

On the one hand, provided it discards its Marxist economic policies, Mozambique can expect some economic upturn — at present the shops are all empty in the cities, the peasants are

often hungry and the country is as bankrupt as a country can be. On the other hand, South Africa can expect a greater degree of border security. This is of benefit to others apart from the ruling circles in what has been called a Bothocracy. Change in South Africa cannot be imported: it will come when South Africans bring it about. If the ANC is denied the possibility of having a base for its terrorist forays it will have to concentrate on re-establishing its base within the country and involving itself in the very different kind of struggle now taking place.

The question that remains is the extent to which Mr Piet Botha and his government are prepared to carry this new realism within South Africa, having now applied it beyond the border. Is it a change of heart or merely the successful outcome of the stick and carrot policy — the stick of overwhelming military power and the carrot of economic dominance, which shows up the incompetence of South Africa's neighbours? Internal progress will be more difficult an exercise, as retreats always are. "We must adapt or die," Mr Botha said on a famous occasion. The choice is still before him.

## Police detention safeguards

From the Minister of State, Home Office

Sir, Mr Bindman's article yesterday ("96 hours' time to think again" February 20) is a thoroughly misleading account of the main provisions on detention which the standing committee of the House of Commons approved on February 16.

Mr Bindman conveys the impression that the Bill gives the police new powers of detention without charge. But under the present law there is no absolute or fixed limit on the time for which an arrested person may be detained before being brought before a court and no machinery for the independent review of detention (other than *habeas corpus*). There have been cases of detention for over a week where the courts have later upheld the conviction.

Under the Bill we are for the first time establishing that the normal maximum for detention without charge will be 24 hours. The police will be able to hold someone beyond that only if he is being held in connection with a serious arrestable offence and if his further detention is necessary to secure, preserve or obtain evidence for an investigation which is being, diligently and expeditiously conducted.

For the first time, at 36 hours (though Mr Bindman forgot to mention it) there will have to be a hearing before a magistrate's court, at which the person concerned and his legal representative will be able to argue against further detention.

During the debate in the standing committee I accepted in principle that no order by a magistrate's court should authorise further detention for more than 36 hours. For the first time the law will place an absolute limit of 96 hours on detention without charge.

The royal commission looked at the Scottish provisions which Mr Bindman cites and decided that they were not relevant to the different legal system in England and Wales. I gave the standing committee examples of the cases, small in number but very serious in character, where the police have needed more than 24 or 36 hours to complete an investigation.

The question is whether in such cases, however valid the police case for further detention, however serious the offence, the investigation should be broken off and the detained person set free. We believe that this would expose the public to unreasonable risk.

The power to detain for questioning is necessary and, as the royal commission said, "well established". We believe that the Bill provides new strong safeguards against its misuse.

Your faithfully,  
DOUGLAS HURD,  
Home Office,  
Queen Anne's Gate, SW1,  
February 21.

## Conflict of skills

From Mr John Norton

Sir, The article in your Monday page on February 6 by Deborah Moggach touches a sensitive chord with insensitive abandon. In the first place, photography has little if anything to do with the skills and disciplines of portrait painting. Secondly, a good portrait surely must speak of the subject and not the social veneer. Thirdly, portraits are, in the best tradition, related to the human condition in its entirety and therefore as important, if not more so, than all the other disciplines that attempt an analysis of that condition. In short, they should be biographical.

To Carlyle, it seemed:

Often I have found a portrait superior in real instruction to half a dozen biographies... I have found that the portrait was a small lighted candle by which the biographies could for the first time be read, and some human interpretation made of them.

Your correspondent ignores most, if not all, important factors of the art as if the subject were merely a commodity of the consumer society or the world of entertainment. Perhaps a reference to our traditions apart from the great European masters would have given readers a more sympathetic insight into one of the greatest means of recording the human condition.

These references would have included names from Thomas More, Shakespeare, Blake, Carlyle, Eliot and, of course, Holbein, Hogarth, Reynolds, Van Dyck, Wyndham Lewis and a host of others.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN NORTON,  
404b Fulham Road, SW6,  
February 14.

## Tom Keating as faker

From Mrs Tilly Marshall

Sir, As with many of your readers, I am well aware of *The Times*'s long commitment to the cause of the late Tom Keating. Also, like many of your readers, such a commitment shocks me. After close on 50 years as an art dealer, however, perhaps it shocks me more than most. It is one of the most astonishing pieces of misjudgment during my professional experience.

Mrs Geraldine Norman's unceasing sponsorship of the late Tom Keating gives one pause for thought. The man was not merely, as described in your press yesterday and today (February 14) "the celebrated art imitator". He was a common or garden faker. How the late Jan Van Meergeren might have wished that he, too, had been born British and of necessity, of course, the son of a charwoman. Meegeren, too, might have become the darling of *The Times* and been taken up by

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Time for Antarctic fishing pact

From Mr Martin Dent

Sir, We are all aware of the story of two dogs who quarrel so vigorously over a bone that it is taken by someone else and they both lose it. Your excellent article in today's *Times* (February 18) on the despoliation of the fisheries within the 200-mile limit around the Falkland/Malvinas Islands shows that this is just the situation of Britain and Argentina.

The 200 miles of water contain rich resources of fish which are now being grossly overfished by many foreign vessels while Britain is afraid to declare a 200-mile fishing limit for fear of offending Argentina and the Argentinians cannot fish or protect the fisheries because of our 200-mile exclusion zone.

The answer is obvious: let us share the responsibility for the fisheries. Surely we can rise above our quarrel to see that the waters around the islands must belong to one or other of us, or to both together, and certainly not to third parties who are now despoiling the fisheries.

The first step between two nations in dispute over a jurisdiction and responsibility is to attempt to share that honour, duty and benefit. Let Britain and Argentina exercise jointly the administration and conservation of the fisheries in these waters, allowing only the ships of our two nations, or those we jointly license, to fish.

To perform this manageable task let us appoint a fisheries protection and development officer (perhaps an outsider to both our nations acting on behalf of us both) and give him a British and an Argentinian adviser.

We shall soon find that, though we are still unable to agree on the emotion-laden subject of "sovereignty", we can cooperate admirably to mutual benefit in the practical business of administration. Although we are not yet ready for joint sovereignty over the land and people we can at least operate it over the seas.

Yours sincerely,  
MARTIN DENT,  
Department of Politics,  
University of Keele,  
Keele,  
Staffordshire,  
February 18.

From Mr Stanley Johnson, MEP for Wight and Hampshire East (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, Like Mr Lyster (feature, February 18) I have recently returned from the Falklands, as well as from visiting, on board the British Antarctic Survey ship John Biscoe, South Georgia, the South Orkneys and the Antarctic peninsula itself.

I completely agree with Mr Lyster's call for a 200-mile economic zone around the Falklands. It seems

likely that 250,000 tons of fish are being taken each year off the Falkland Islands, with little benefit derived either by the British consumer or the Exchequer.

At the same time our failure to effect a fisheries regime puts at risk, as Mr Lyster rightly states, the whole marine ecosystem of the area. We are in a sense throwing away a priceless asset which was won back for Britain by great expense of blood and treasure.

The argument is sometimes advanced that declaring (and enforcing) a 200-mile economic zone around the Falklands will "upset the Argentinians" at a delicate moment of negotiation. But Argentina has had no hesitation in proclaiming its own economic zone.

Where the zones overlap there are established principles of international law for dividing the waters along the median line, and these principles could presumably be applied in this case without giving rise to diplomatic upset.

Even more important, it is as much in Argentina's interest as it is in Britain's for Britain to enforce a fisheries regime on its side of the Patagonian shelf. The current free-for-all must damage Argentinian stocks almost as much as our own since, biologically speaking, the resources of the Patagonian shelf are shared between the two countries.

As far as South Georgia is concerned, the arguments are even clearer. In Grytviken last week I was told that recent aerial surveys had revealed 180 ships trawling around the island. These are not British ships. They are Soviet or East European. Catching large quantities of krill, the small crustacean at the base of the Antarctic food chain, as well as fish, they may be intervening even more directly in the balance of the marine ecosystem.

Here again an economic zone around South Georgia is an indispensable tool of any effective management regime. The British Antarctic Survey, with its already established offshore biological programme, should be able to help in generating the necessary scientific data.

The South Orkneys, where I also observed heavy Soviet fishing, lie inside the Antarctic Treaty area. The urgent need there is for catch limits to be set and enforced on an international basis, having particular regard to the interaction of different elements in the food chain.

The machinery for this exists, but progress towards effective regulation is desperately slow. If the dismal history of the whaling industry is anything to go by, it may soon be too late.

Yours sincerely,  
STANLEY JOHNSON,  
30 Maidea Avenue, W2,  
February 19.

### Countryside heritage

From Mr John Hunter

Sir, This correspondence began with a reference to an Essex boundary hedge and has gone on to consider matters of age and correct management of hedges. I think there is some confusion amongst your correspondents due to geography and different methods of farming.

Sir David Scott (February 15) is correct in his description of Midland hedges which are laid and trimmed to enclose stock. In arable Essex there is little need for such fences and Mr Curtis (February 11) has described the excellent traditional practice of cutting hedges to the ground every 15 years or so. I prefer to call this "coppicing" rather than "razing" and it has the effect of invigorating the stools of the trees and shrubs which comprise the hedge.

On the matter of age, I have carefully analysed all the hedges of a

1,500 acre estate in North Essex by the method Mr Secret has described (February 15). I found that one third of the hedges were dated to before the Black Death (1350), some considerably earlier, and that another third were pre-1600.

Interestingly, the older hedges generally related to ancient property boundaries, watercourses, lanes and paths, and major changes in soil type. While many hedges had been removed to create economic field sizes, I believe that most of these were modern and relatively uninteresting.

In wide areas of the Midlands which were subject to parliamentary enclosure hedges consist solely of hawthorn. Consequently I think it dangerous to generalise on the basis of one's local landscapes.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN HUNTER,  
The Market Cross,  
Thaxted,  
Essex.

### Cannon Street station

From the General Manager of British Rail (Southern)

Sir, Let me hasten to reassure the 70,000 passengers who daily use Cannon Street station that, contrary to the report in today's edition of *The Times* (February 15) the station is not "set to close". Indeed we have just invested £10m in redecking the river bridge.

Our new timetable, which starts in May, recognises the fact that during the day most passengers coming into London from Kent are heading for the West End, which is best served by Charing Cross station. If they want Cannon Street and the City they can make an easy change at London Bridge for a frequent shuttle service. There will still be direct services throughout the morning and evening peaks.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID KIRBY, General Manager,  
British Rail (Southern),  
Waterloo Station, SE1,  
February 15.

### Making the grade

From Dr Alan R. H. Baker

Sir, Without wishing, at this stage, to contribute further to the debate about "making the grades for university", may I correct one potentially misleading statement in Ronald Butt's article (February 16)?

It is not the case that "in practice the minimum entrance requirement for success at Emmanuel will be three grade-A results at A level". Our conditions offer to pre-A-level candidates will normally ask for A-level grades of A B B, A A C, A A B or A A A and will often include a merit or distinction in one or two S-level papers. We would certainly, however, expect a high proportion of our successful candidates in practice to have obtained three grade As.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN R. H. BAKER, Tutor,  
Emmanuel College,  
Cambridge,  
February 16.

## Passing judgment on television

From his Honour Lyall Wilkes

Sir, I do not know how many retired judges refused Yorkshire Television's invitation to act as "judge" in a series of television "arbitrations" before one was found who accepted (report, February 15); but I at least was approached by letter in September, 1982, and the reasons for my refusal seem sounder with each passing day and may be thought of some general importance.

1. The law is peculiarly an area in which a little knowledge on the part of the untrained is a dangerous thing. The proposed programmes can only give encouragement to the sort of exhibitionist who in real life disposed to indulge in "do it yourself" litigation, if it is still proposed, as it was put to me in 1982, that the parties appear without legal representation. My lifetime in the law teaches me that a litigant appearing in person is a danger to himself, to the court, and to justice.

2. Litigation is, or should be, a serious business and its financial sanctions should be preserved to discourage its being used frivolously. Here encouragement will be given to the exhibitionist to have his hour of disputatious glory on television with no financial sanctions if he loses, and indeed enriched by £100 appearance money.

3. But the real objection of principle is the television assumption that all aspects of life are suitable for television, and they are not. From social intercourse here, to television excursions in America, the public mind is increasingly debased by television.

4. If people wish to be educated as to how the courts work, nearly all courts are open to the public, where they may go and listen to real legal arguments and expertise. I am afraid they will find the proceedings very slow and dull (a prerequisite for justice being done) with not a laugh in sight.

If these proposed programmes are ever screened they will lead to further demands by television to allow their cameras into real courts (as in America) as only a further small step from what is here proposed.

Yours faithfully,  
LYALL WILKES,  
Dissington Garden House,  
Dalton, Newcastle upon Tyne.

### A life or death issue

From the Right Reverend Trevor Huddleston

Sir, The current controversy concerning the ethics of kidney transplants is in fact a life or death issue. At the heart of it lies the stark fact that many lives (over 100 in 1982) are being unnecessarily lost because of a shortage of kidneys available for transplant.

The present system of "donor cards" available to those who "opt in" has failed to produce enough cadaver kidneys to meet the need. Yet there is apparently a deep reluctance (shared by some distinguished surgeons) to support the alternative, namely, that doctors should have the automatic right to remove kidneys from a dead person unless he/she has registered an objection in his lifetime.

The gravamen of this opposition appears to be that it takes away the right of the individual and in some way destroys the good will of the public. It is in fact the same argument advanced by those who opposed compulsory wearing of seat belts. And the consequences are the same, the saving or the loss of precious lives.

Having been concerned in this particular matter of the ethics of transplant surgery over many years, I am convinced that the opting out procedure would not only save life but would give in no offence whatever on religious or humanistic grounds. It cannot be a deprivation of rights for the donor, for he/she has the right to opt out.

But it certainly is a deprivation of the right to live for hundreds, if not thousands of kidney patients in this country. And I believe it should be a matter of conscience to promote life rather than to safeguard the dignity — if such it is — of a corpse.

Yours faithfully,  
TREVOR HUDDLESTON,  
St James's Church,  
197 Piccadilly, W1.

### Fate of Temple Bar

From Dr Selby Whittingham

Sir, The case of Temple Bar, about which the Temple Bar Trust writes again (February 17), is similar to that of the Carfax Conduit, another seventeenth-century monument that had to be moved to accommodate the flow of traffic.

The latter was tried, in the form of a wooden model of the same size, on various sites in Oxford, after which it was concluded that it was better left where it is in the park at Nuneham Courtenay.

The London sites proposed for Temple Bar do not suit its scale or original purpose and it would look better remaining where it is now. The cost of looking after it there could be set against the saving in not having to pay for its removal.

The neglect of these monuments of architecture and sculpture in the past, and of our native sculpture in the open air in general, has been very great, and perhaps puts into a different perspective the neglect of the Parthenon by the Greeks, who at least had the excuse of poverty and occupation by foreigners.

Yours faithfully,  
SELBY WHITTINGHAM,  
153 Cromwell Road, SW5.

### Farewell to arms

From Mr John B. Harris

Sir, Why, do you suppose, leaders of nations professing to be peace-loving continue to have their bodies taken to burial on a gun carriage?

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN B. HARRIS,  
31 Princedale Road, W11.







## The provinces of Guangdong and Fujian

## China's new frontier

The southern provinces of Guangdong and Fujian are at the front of the drive by China to attract foreign investment as it struggles to modernize its economy after the ravages of the Cultural Revolution. Guangdong borders the British colony of Hongkong and the Portuguese-administered territory of Macau, and Fujian has for long had links with South-east Asia. The two contain all four of China's special economic zones and the waters off Guangdong have become a magnet for international oil companies.

David Bonavia sets the scene.



Pushing through the mud: boys moving goods by bicycle near Xiamen in Fujian province.

Guangdong and Fujian are two of China's most independent provinces, and two of the richest in natural resources. Guangdong is famed as the home of revolutionaries, while Fujian has a seaward orientation with links to the Chinese of South-east Asia.

With its abundant rice, pork, vegetables and sugar cane, and its busy light industries, Guangdong runs a huge export trade with Hongkong and Macau, thus earning large sums in foreign currency, both for its own use and for that of the central treasury in Peking.

Fujian is rich mainly in rice, fish, timber and fruit. Much of the fruit is canned for export and receives stiff competition from Taiwan on foreign markets.

The Fujianese and other Chinese joke that the Cantonese "will eat anything with four legs except a table, anything that flies except an aeroplane, and anything that swims except a submarine." Certainly the Cantonese spare no form of wild life, including snake, civet cat, owl, pangolin and salamander.

The Fujianese are more conservative in their tastes, preferring seafoods to fresh water fish and venturing little into their province's steep mountains in search of game.

Guangdong has long been the sponge through which Western ideas and techniques - as well as the new fruits and vegetables discovered in America four centuries ago and now very important to Chinese agriculture - have been absorbed. Jesuit missionaries made it their base in the sixteenth century, while Western merchants traded outside the walls of Canton from the late seventeenth century onwards.

Guangdong was also the first place in China to learn the frightening power of the British Navy and the ability of its gunners to extract trade concessions and eventually territory from the provincial viceroys and the Imperial Court.

Many Chinese revolutionaries took refuge in Hongkong from persecution in China, including such dissimilar figures as Sun Yat-sen and Chou En-lai. And it was the armies of Guangdong that crowned with success Chiang Kai-shek's expedition against the northern warlords and reunification of the country in 1928.

Fujian lies somewhat to the edge of the Chinese world, once braving pirates to send emigrants across the strait of Taiwan, where Fujianese are the biggest social group. Portugal traded at Quanzhou but paid more attention to Macau.

Until Britain and France forced open the "treaty ports"

in the mid-nineteenth century, Fujian's famous teas went by the river route for sale at Canton. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries Spanish monks from the Philippines made some converts in Fujian, but Christianity was later persecuted in the province and a revival had to await the opening of the ports for trade.

The big agricultural reform which has swept China's countryside in the past few years is showing obvious results in both provinces. Peasants are now allowed to decide for themselves how much they will grow and at what prices they will sell their crops, on condition that they fulfil a contract to deliver a certain amount annually to the state. Though the contract system is less easily applied in fishing, the coastal markets are brisk and many people are building new houses.

Nonetheless life is still hard and basic for most of the population, especially in the more remote rural areas. Illegal immigration into Hongkong has been greatly reduced, but only because of a tougher attitude on the part of the British. The pressures for emigration are still there. The people of southern China are well aware of the higher living standards in Hongkong and the outside world, but they are also beginning to enjoy more consumer goods such as refrigerators and washing-machines.



The new China: tower blocks over the commercial centre of the special economic zone at Shenzhen, while, in the foreground, lorries stream across border from Hongkong. Shenzhen is the biggest of China's four SEZs, which are designed to attract foreign capital and technology. So far, most of the investment has come from Hongkong.

## The only city in China where you can call a taxi

The economic core of Guangdong province is the Pearl River delta, which has Canton as its regional centre but also contains Hongkong, Macau and two of the three Special Economic Zones. Outside the delta region - with the exception of the Zhaoqing region, the economic outlet for Guangxi province, and the small Han River delta, of which Shantou (Swat) is the regional centre - the province is poor and mountainous with inadequate communications.

The large island of Hainan, only slightly smaller than Taiwan, is administratively part of Guangdong. It is still relatively underdeveloped,

though its potential as China's only year-round source of tropical products is substantial. A lot of Guangdong are the frequently disputed island groups (Xisha, Nansha) extending into the resource-rich South China Sea.

The current population of Guangdong is more than 60 million more than 65 million if Hongkong and Macau are included, a figure exceeded only Sichuan, Henan and Shanxi. Its population approximates to that of Jiangsu province which, closely integrated with the Shanghai economic region, has much in common with Guangdong's economic core, itself strongly

influenced by Hongkong. Guangdong has played a significant innovative role in the history of modern China. Since 1978 it has been granted a degree of autonomy to formulate economic policy. A general relaxation in policy prescriptions, especially in the rural sector, has had some far-reaching effects, some of which have been held up for national emulation.

The province is one of China's great agricultural regions. It ranks sixth in terms of the value of total agricultural production. It produces almost half of China's sugar cane, 11 per cent of its rice output and is the largest producer of both fish and forest products.

Since 1979 a variety of new approaches to stimulate the rural economy has been adopted in China. The purchasing prices of farm commodities have been increased to encourage peasants to diversify operations. By 1982 most production teams in Guangdong had adopted so-called "production responsibility systems" in which individual peasant households have a greater degree of independence to make certain production decisions.

The production responsibility system is credited with a broad increase in farm production, which grew by 16 per cent in 1982 and is likely to have exceeded that figure in 1983. Grain, sugar cane, peanuts, fruit and tea all broke output records. The increase in fish production, especially freshwater fish, has been especially marked. Only hemp and the traditionally significant production of silk cocoons declined in 1982 and 1983.

There is substantial local variation throughout Guangdong and not all areas have responded in identical ways to the new opportunities. The Pearl River delta region is most advantageously located and diversity in the rural economy has increased significantly over the past four years.

However, the most remarkable change in the Pearl River delta region is the growth of local industry. The restrictions which were imposed on the nature and scale of local industries before 1978 have been removed and have resulted in the rapid growth of communal and brigade enterprises. Many are operating in cooperation with business interests in Hongkong and Macau or use the advantages of location (and the possession of foreign exchange) to invest in efficient, modern (and often foreign) plants to serve aspects of Chinese domestic industry. A burgeoning local industry and a solid agricultural base has given the peasants of the delta region the highest per capita rural incomes in China.

Guangdong has little heavy industry but is an important light-industry centre. Only Shanghai produces more sewing machines than Guangdong and it leads the nation in the production of electric fans. It is also an important producer of bicycles, refined aluminium products and hand-tractors. Its food-processing industry is large, refined sugar (40 per cent of China's total) being the most significant. Sharp increases in the production of domestic appliances (refrigerators and washing machines), tape-recorders and cameras have been recorded over the past two years.

The provincial capital, Canton, is China's most distinctive regional centre, for it is the most open to foreign influences. This is a reflection of an increasing integration with affluent (and capitalist) Hongkong and Macau. Two through express trains run between Hongkong and Canton daily in addition to an air service and a variety of sea routes. The road network, although still inadequate, is improving. The most important new road links Hongkong and Canton, reducing the journey to about three hours.

## GUANGDONG FACTS

Area: 210,000 sq km  
Population: 60 million  
Capital: Guangzhou (Canton)  
Economy: rice, sugar cane, pork, vegetables, fish, timber, light industry, tourism.

The effect of this integration is startling. Canton has been transformed. Restaurants and teahouses are packed, and a pattern of consumption that owes more to Hongkong than to Peking predominates. Canton is the only city in China where taxis can be hailed on the street and overseas telephone calls dialed directly.

Ninety per cent of China's tourists - there were eight million in 1982 - are "compatriots", the great majority from Hongkong. Most stay within the bounds of the province and tourist revenue is an estimated £500m. Hongkong visitors entertain lavishly and present expensive gifts to their kinsmen. They provide an air of affluence to the south which excites the interest of much of the rest of the country.

Graham Johnson

The author is associate professor of sociology in the Department of Anthropology and Sociology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

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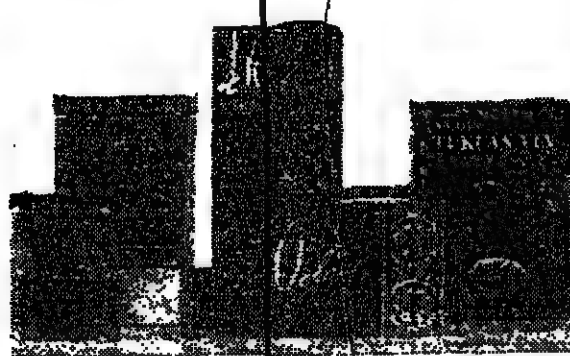
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## CHINA'S NEW FRONTIER



Sharing a joke over the vegetables at a kerbside market in Shenzhen, the centre of China's biggest special economic zone.

## Turning a sweet face to Taiwan

"Catch up with Guangdong" seems to be the watchword of Fujian province, which is among the most isolated in China by land, but highly accessible by sea. Arable land and main concentrations of population are located in the long coastal strip, where the staple foods are rice and fish.

Geography has shaped both the livelihood and the outlook of the Fujian people. They are proud and clannish, but also hospitable and humorous.

With their seafaring orientation, the Fujianese have historically settled in Taiwan, South-east Asia and the West. The number of overseas kin is put at some six million, not including those in Taiwan. A steady flow of remittances to relatives brings in a healthy foreign currency earnings and flocks of visitors from Hong Kong and elsewhere at the Chinese New Year.

Rich in resources, especially seafood and timber, the province nonetheless lags behind the much bigger Guangdong, which enjoys a fertile hinterland and has a population of more than 60 million (as against Fujian's 26 million).

Per capita incomes are lower than in Guangdong, especially in the interior, but some of the fishing communities are exceedingly prosperous. There is much new building in and around Fuzhou, the provincial capital, making use of local granite.

There is not even a railway

### FUJIAN FACTS

Area: 120,000 sq km  
Population: 26 million  
Capital: Fuzhou  
Economy: rice, fish, fruit, timber.

from Canton to Fuzhou, though a 20-hour motor coach service has been inaugurated. Passenger sailings operate between Hong Kong and Xiamen (Amoy) and Mawei, the port of Fuzhou on the Min River. And there are direct flights by Trident to Canton, Shanghai, Peking and Hong Kong.

The reason for the sudden rush to develop Fujian with foreign investment as well as government subsidies is that until the death of Mao Tse-tung in 1976, Fujian was considered a "frontline" province because it faces Taiwan, where the Kuomintang (Nationalists) maintain large and modern armed forces.

The days of punishing artillery duels between Fujian and the offshore islands of Jinmen (Quemoy) and Matsu (Matsu) are over, and Taiwan fishermen in distress are welcomed at special reception centres. There is much smuggling across the strait.

Since 1977 the central government has removed the "frontline" tag in accordance with its sweetly reasonable overtures to Taiwan for peace-

ful reunification. Peking now subsidizes the development of Fujian to the tune of about 100m renminbi (£36m) annually.

Foreign investment has been slower coming to Fujian than to Guangdong. Japan's Hitachi is assembling electronic goods with local labour and there is a special economic zone at Amoy, concentrating on export processing.

Incomes vary greatly. The less well-off peasants or fishermen might earn less than £100 a year in cash, and have a mainly subsistence economy.

However, the brigade-leader at a fishing village near Fuzhou put his family's joint income - with four able-bodied workers - at the equivalent of about £6,000 a year (a huge sum in China).

The sea and estuaries yield abundant foodstuffs - fish, oysters, prawns, crab and seaweed - at rock-bottom prices. There is also a rich harvest of fruit, especially lychees, loquats, pineapples, bananas and tangerines. Both the seafood and the fruit are canned or otherwise preserved for export.

In the countryside, old customs die hard. Some young people have been rebuffed for sending out the traditional invitations to their wedding banquets, at which every guest makes a contribution in cash. There is a continuing campaign against fortune-telling and

gambling and other "feudal remnants".

Some 20,000 ethnic Chinese refugees from Vietnam, expelled in 1978, have been resettled in Fujian, a small number compared with those now living in Guangdong, including Hainan Island, and in Guangxi and Yunnan.

Restitution is still being made to Overseas Chinese families, mainly from Indonesia, who opted to return to China when race relations in that country deteriorated in 1960. During the Cultural Revolution many of them were persecuted or evicted because of jealousy over the higher living standards they enjoyed, and suspicions about their loyalty.

Now that the returned Overseas Chinese have had their privileges restored they can buy high-quality goods with remittances from their relatives abroad and are given priority in employment, health and education.

Tourism is being actively developed. Fuzhou itself is a bland modern city, though its streets are made more pleasant by the feathery pines, dwarf mangoes and other indigenous trees planted at the kerb. The main attractions in the province are Xiamen, the picturesque former treaty port, and Quanzhou, with its cultural and artistic relics.

David Bonavia

## The Western way of making money

Foreign visitors to Hong Kong flock across the border into the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone to marvel at China's proud experiment in blending socialist ideology with capitalist ways of making money. Previously, foreigners could only peep at the slumbering giant from a hilltop inside Hong Kong. Today, they can walk through bedrooms of model homes in Shenzhen on a one-day tour.

To visitors, Shenzhen represents the Chinese economy's new look. To the planners in Peking, it is not only a new way of importing foreign capital, technology and management techniques, but also a success that must be maintained so as to demonstrate the leadership's sincerity in adopting a liberal, long-term open-door policy. To workers in Shenzhen, the town means higher wages, easier access to imported goods, Hong Kong-style entertainment, longer working hours and greater output.

There are three special economic zones (SEZs) in the southern province of Guangdong - Shenzhen, Shantou and Zhuhai, the last bordering the Portuguese enclave of Macau. A fourth one is Xiamen on the east coast of Fujian province across the strait from Taiwan.

SEZs are designed to accommodate export industries, a vital means of earning hard currency. Foreign companies are invited to enter into various types of joint-venture - including capital sharing, processing and assembly, and compensation trade - with Chinese state-owned enterprises. Shenzhen SEZ is well ahead of the others and boasts some HK\$ 12,300m (about £1,113m) in pledged foreign investment, according to the Shenzhen SEZ development company.

However, only a small percentage of the pledged investment is realized: of the HK\$ 10,900m promised up to June 1983, only HK\$ 2,500m had become actual investment.

"The zone officials are only too eager to cooperate with foreign businessmen, but they don't know the rules of the game", a Shenzhen-based foreign banker said. "The Chinese sometimes don't even ask for the balance sheet of their partner's firm before they sign a contract."

Shenzhen's embryonic capitalist economy is affected by the ups and downs of the Hong Kong economy, which is not surprising as Hong Kong businesses are behind an estimated 8 per cent of foreign investment in the zone. When Hong Kong was riding on the crest of a property boom, Shenzhen's considerable cheaper land attracted many manufacturers from across the border. They were soon followed by property developers who projects for holiday resorts, hotels, blocks of flats and commercial complexes.

### Exploration of Pearl River basin

When Hong Kong's property bubble burst in 1982 and the land cost difference nearly vanished, Hong Kong manufacturers who needed to expand production looked for existing Shenzhen factories, where they could place orders without making any long-term investment. As the flow of capital into Shenzhen slows down, zone authorities may be rethinking the initial strategy of industrial development; indeed, they have already announced a number of large-scale oil-related projects.

This is because Shenzhen at the mouth of the Pearl River, in whose basin oil and gas exploration is under way, Chiwan, in Shenzhen's Shekou district, has been designated as a major support base for offshore drilling in the South China Sea. Shekou district, though a part of Shenzhen SEZ, is separately managed by China Merchants Steam Navigation, the Hong Kong arm of the Chinese Ministry of Communications.

To attract substantial investment in industry, the quality of workers must first be upgraded,

investors observed. Average factory worker, at about 1,000 a month, costs as much as his counterpart in Hong Kong but his productivity is much lower.

Zone officials are told visiting businessmen that Shenzhen has much to offer from Hong Kong, but the SEZ has not yet lost its Hong Kong's enterprising spirit. "They just cannot get the required operations never think about ways to improve things", a Hong Kong investor said.

Foreign businessmen in Shenzhen, some of whom commute daily from Hong Kong, complain bitterly of the complications of crossing the border. The four or five checkpoints inside the Shenzhen border take more than 40 minutes to pass. Making a phone call to Hong Kong is longer. Immigration papers will be simplified after the completion of a second order which will seal off the zone from the rest of China, ending tighter control over the flow of mainlanders into the SEZ.

Current Shenzhen SEZ plans call for factories, producing electronic petrochemicals, building materials and precision machinery, a deep-water harbour and an international airport built with foreign assistance.

Foreigner SEZs have less ambitious plans and their curfew benefit them in the long run according to China trade specialists. Due to difficulty of access, Zhuhai, Shantou and Xiamen have been slow to attract foreign investment, but trade links are gradually being established.

### CHINA'S SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES

Shenzhen: Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Shantou, Fujian: Xiamen  
Pledged foreign investment: Shenzhen - HK\$10,900m, of which HK\$2,500m realized by June 1983; Zhuhai - \$US130m, of which \$US21m realized by September 1983; Xiamen - \$US100m by last October.

Xiamen's international airport, built with loans from the Arab Development Fund of Kuwait, was completed late last year and has direct flights to Hong Kong, Shanghai, Peking and Canton. A helicopter service between Zhuhai and Canton was recently inaugurated. Shantou, the least developed of the SEZs, has a freight and passenger shipping service, a joint-venture with a Thai company.

The relatively small size of Xiamen, Shantou and Zhuhai SEZs - which together amount to less than 7 per cent of Shenzhen SEZ's area - makes for better planning and management. Zhuhai, for example, focuses on exploiting its scenic landscape; its location on the west bank of the Pearl River makes it a convenient holiday spot for expatriate oilmen. By September 1983, Zhuhai officials were claiming pledged foreign investment of \$US 1,130m (about £800m), some \$US 11m of which had been spent, mainly in tourism and its offshoot industries. Last year, Zhuhai SEZ was extended to embrace Shijingshan, a major tourist attraction.

Chinese official reports of Xiamen's development are confined to the number of business visitors to the zone and the preferential tax treatment offered to foreign investors. It was reported in October 1983 that total pledged investment amounted to \$US 150m, but no information is available on actual investment. Major projects in Xiamen SEZ are China's third Coca-Cola bottling plant, a tile factory capitalized at \$US 435m and financed by a Singapore Chinese, and the joint-manufacture of a new cigarette brand with R. J. Reynolds Tobacco of the United States.

Teresa Ma

The author is a specialist writer on Hong Kong for the Far Eastern Economic Review.

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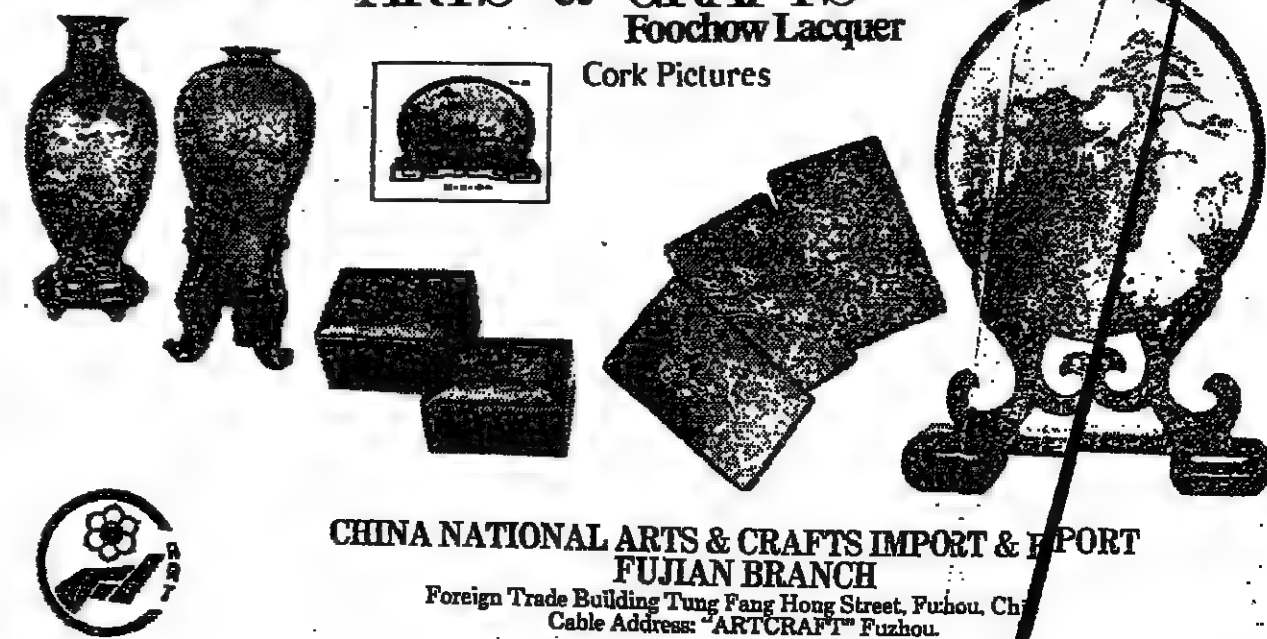
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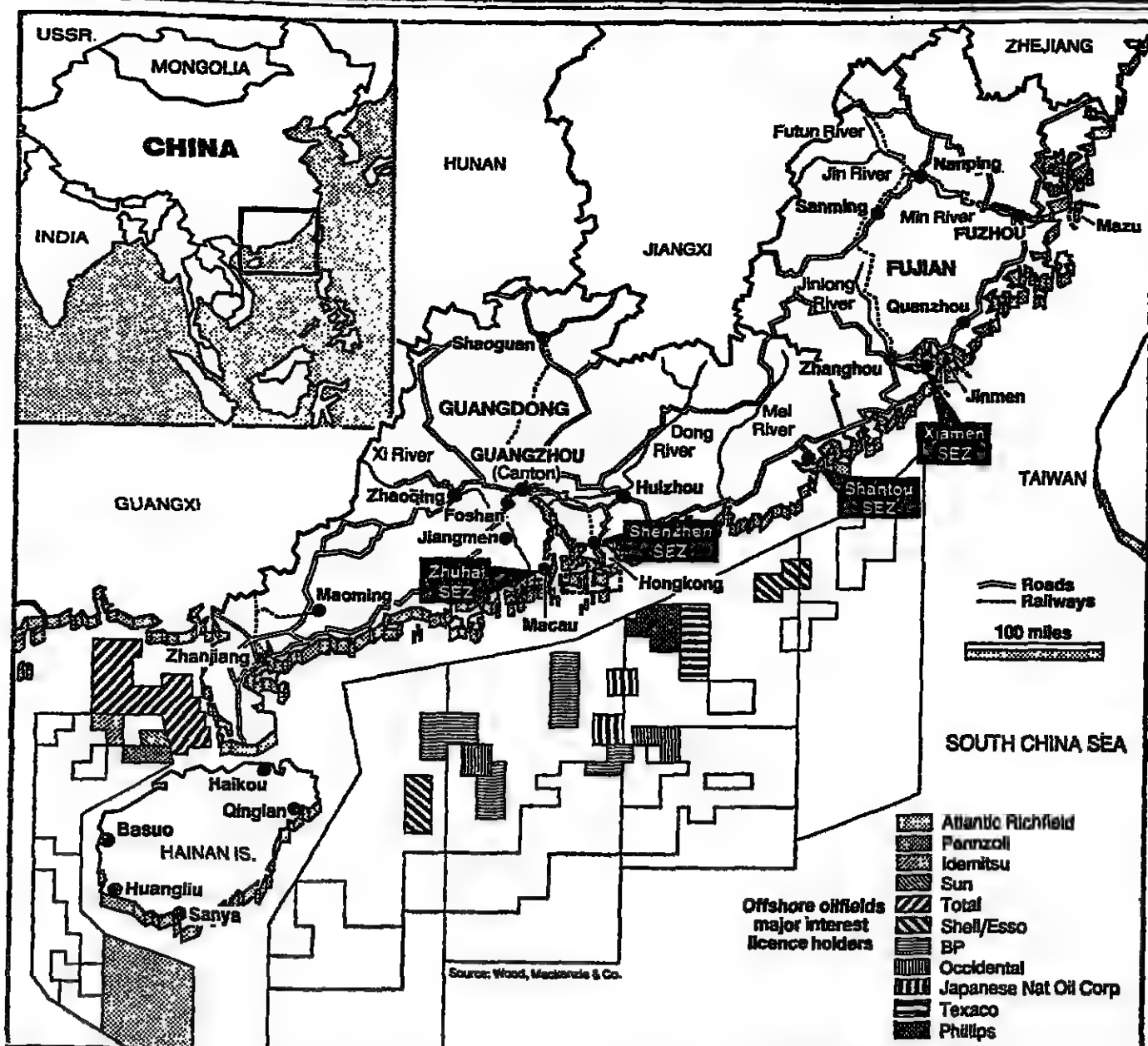
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## CHINA'S NEW FRONTIER



## High hopes for offshore oil

Initial disappointment at the abandonment of BP's first exploration well in the South China Sea has now evaporated. The outcome has been put into perspective and the oil industry and those who watch its activities closely still believe that the area has enormous potential. The BP drill ship has moved on to another block with different geological formations and has already started drilling there. Earlier this month, Esso China, the operator for a joint venture between Esso and Shell, began drilling in the western part of the Pearl River basin.

For China and the oil companies the importance of the South China Sea cannot be overestimated. It has been described as possibly another North Sea or as the next Alaska. It is the one remaining area in the world where the potential for a really important oil field exists.

That BP did not strike oil at the first attempt does not mean that the seismic surveys on the area were wrong. Oil traces were found where the surveys said they would be, but not in commercially viable quantities. The first drilling in the North Sea followed the same pattern. Moreover, BP's five drilling concessions in the South China Sea cover massive areas compared with the North Sea licence blocks.

The two BP wells and those which will follow when other groups move their rigs into the area are already affecting the local economy. Shore bases are being developed and money from the Western companies is

flowing into that part of China via the pockets of the Chinese drill crews and through the government.

The Chinese workers being trained and employed by BP and its competitors are paid by the companies at the going world rate for drilling crews, but in fact receive only the national average wage. The rest of their earnings goes to the government. This is done so that the Chinese workers do not feel inferior in earning power to the Westerners they work alongside, while at the same time not feeling superior to their countrymen ashore employed in agriculture or more traditional industries.

## Royalties and the X factor

When oil is found, the Chinese government will start to take a considerable slice of the revenue. Too big a slice, say some companies that have not bothered to bid for licences. But those companies that have already won licences regard the potential rewards as so great as to be worth the high taxation level.

Initially, China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC), the national oil company, has the option to take up a 51 per cent stake in any development project. In addition, there are royalties, taxes and the so-called "X" factor, namely, the share of the oil, after taxes, which goes to the oil

company - an important element in the bidding process under which blocks have been allocated. Contract terms vary between companies and between blocks, and even vary with different production levels.

It is expected that food supplies and services for the offshore sector, stand-by tug and fire-fighting ships, will all come from Chinese companies.

The potential for oil-related exports to China will be limited to high-technology and highly specialized drilling equipment. In this area, Britain stands to gain a great deal, especially as much of the technology to be used has been developed in the North Sea and will be available through the British government's Offshore Supplies Office at the Department of Energy.

However, even in this area the Chinese are expected to drive a tough bargain, negotiating production licence deals rather than buying hardware from Britain and wherever possible seeking to pay in compensation agreement deals or perhaps in oil, rather than in hard cash. Using Chinese oil to pay for British goods would bring business to the oil trading department of British oil companies, adding to Britain's invisible earnings.

Britain is likely to reap a quicker financial benefit from the Chinese decision to build a 1,800 megawatt nuclear power station at Daya Bay in Guangdong. The project, worth \$3,200m, is a joint development

between Hongkong and Chinese interests, and already plans for a second station of similar capacity are under consideration.

The scheme has run into environmental objections because of its proximity to Hongkong, but it is likely that it will be producing its first electricity in 1989, and work on the second phase could have already started by then.

Originally it was planned to complete the power station in 1991 - a more realistic target, according to engineers who have been involved in evaluating the scheme - and to sell 70 per cent of its output to Hongkong. The Hongkong interest, led by China Light and Power, one of the largest of the colony's utility companies, has not yet been invited to take part in the second stage of the project.

Britain hopes that GEC will win the turbine and generating plant for the station, with the contract for the two 900 megawatt reactors going to Framatome of France.

Britain is likely to win a large share of the "invisible" earnings from the project. British merchant bankers are advising on the financial packages required by the consortium bidding for the project and on the overall financial package.

David Young  
Energy Correspondent

## Rushing into tourism on treasure island

South China's "Treasure Island", Hainan, is under-going rapid and even headlong development to ensure that its tropical products and tourist potential bring it into the front rank of foreign exchange earners over the next decade or so.

Though not strictly speaking in the tropical zone, Hainan is the only part of China which produces coffee, rubber and numerous other commodities useful in the domestic economy as well as the export market. Last May Mr Liang Lingguang, Governor of Guangdong province, to which the big island belongs, promised an annual 10 per cent increase in provincial subsidies on top of an outright grant of about £6m.

Transport facilities are badly in need of development. Extension work is in progress at Haikou, the capital, Basuo and Qionglan and a new port is being built at Sanya in the far south, which is a submarine base. There are to be steamer services to Hongkong and Canton.

CAAC, the national airline, is to operate direct flights from Hongkong and Canton to Haikou and Sanya, and a microwave communications link is in the pipeline.

It is hoped to raise open-cut coal mining to more than 500,000 tonnes in the next three years and to build a coal-fired 50,000 kilowatt power plant at Kengkou.

There are also plans to triple annual dry rubber production to between 450,000 and 500,000 tonnes by the end of the century. Hainan accounted for nearly 70 per cent of China's rubber output in 1983.

To prevent further despoliation of natural resources and the environment, tree-felling at some locations has been banned and Canton will pay for afforestation work instead. More than 60,000 acres of mudflats and 160,000 acres of freshwater area will be used for fish-farming.

Somewhat controversial is the provincial government's plan to develop Hainan for tourism. The government is pinning hopes on "winter swimmers" coming from Hongkong - but Hongkong has its own beaches, and Cantonese people rarely swim in winter, even in the relatively mild climate of South China.

Tourist facilities so far are almost non-existent and the

## Stripped of political powers

To improve Hainan's foreign trade, the island is being given more autonomy in its handling of import-export deals. Promising export crops are pineapple, cashew nuts, tea, medicinal herbs, lemon-grass and melons. Customs in Haikou have been instructed to cause the least possible impediment to import of machinery and equipment needed for the island's development. The People's Liberation Army is playing a significant role in engineering and site-preparation, as well as planting of rubber and coconut trees, the latter on the streets of Sanya.

The 34,200 square kilometre island, with its population of some 3.7 million, is also to have more industry. Emphasis will initially be placed on machine-building, though processing and canning of agricultural products will be of greater importance for a long time to come.

Foreign businessmen and delegations have been visiting Hainan to survey the prospects for investment and joint ventures. Contracts have been signed for a cement factory, a pig-breeding, a solar-energy plant, and a yard for building fishing vessels.

David Bonavia

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THE TIMES

## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## Bumpy ride for BA privatization plans

Lord King, chairman of British Airways, has an important engagement with the Prime Minister this morning. Both remain dedicated to privatizing BA, but Lord King now senses that some of the ground may be taken from under his feet by the combined forces of Sir Adam Thomson, lobbying skillfully for British Caledonian, a laid back Secretary of State for Transport in the languid shape of Mr Nicholas Ridley, a wet and confused Tory Aviation Committee, and the discreetly powerful Civil Aviation Authority. In a nutshell, Lord King would argue that it would be better for BA to remain state-owned, coining money for the Exchequer than to come to the City with a prospectus holed by the transfer or profitable routes to British Caledonian.

An exaggeration, of course, but hardly an overstatement of BA's fear that the Whitehall wind is now blowing too strongly in BCal's favour. To BA the CAA's award of a licence to BCal to fly the London to Riyadh route is a prophetic straw. BA no longer feels confident that of business from BA to BCal if the CAA's present inquiry into aviation policy extends to a recommendation that BCal should have a bigger slice of the action.

Understandably, Lord King feels a little cross that his and his team's achievement in turning BA into a viable airline in two years might be deflated in the run up to privatization, scheduled at present for March next year. BA has drastically slimmed its bloated labour force, with little union trouble; closed off an index-linked pension fund; begun punching its weight in all its commercial operations; resisted the blandishments of the Treasury

in not putting all its goods in the window in preparation for the privatization issue; and made a profit before interest comfortably in excess of £250m in the year to end of March. It seems that the sight of a big, powerful and efficient BA has struck terror in some Conservative faithfuls: hence the trying on of the tartan.

BA is not afraid of competition from BCal, which is not what Sir Adam Thomson actually wants. He proposes that some BA routes should be transferred, at a price, to BCal; with them would come BA's profits. BCal deserves every legitimate encouragement but if, as it would appear, Sir Adam is under pressure from leading shareholders who want BCal to be floated so that they can reduce their shareholdings, then this should be clearly understood. A BCal prospectus primed with some juicy BA routes would have added appeal.

Lord King can be relied on to bring the fight over routes into the open. He would regard BCal as a predator to be fought as predators are normally fought when companies in private industry clash. But his main weapon might turn out to be British Telecommunications. Thinking the unthinkable for a moment, mounting doubts and reservations about BT's future role as a private sector monopoly might just delay the flotation beyond the autumn.

If that happened the sale of BA could be brought forward to satisfy the Treasury's enormous appetite for the proceeds of asset sales. BA's prospectus, especially if Lord King has his wish and a 100 per cent of the equity is offered, would need all the charm at the Government's command.

## Looking to the medium term

One of the Chancellor's main tasks in the Budget will be to breathe new life into the Government's tattered Medium Term Financial Strategy for reducing inflation, which has been the subject of some bad-mouthing in the City recently. Put simply, the City wants the Chancellor to show how he proposes to get from here - 5 per cent inflation - to there - the price stability the Government has made its ultimate goal.

Mr Lawson has never promised stable prices within the lifetime of the present Parliament (nor is he necessarily committed to zero as opposed to very low inflation). But the further into the distant future that goal is pushed the less credible an object of policy it appears.

So the pressure is on for the Government to demonstrate that price stability is within its grasp. Mr Lawson's problem is that the MTFS embodies only the shallowest of declines in money growth and public borrowing, with a commensurately snail-like approach to zero inflation. (It would not be believed if it did not.) Hence the suggestion being considered by ministers of extending the MTFS from the present three years to a full five years in the Budget.

One intriguing aspect of this proposal is that the Treasury would have to pencil in numbers for public borrowing and so for state spending for the two years beyond 1986-87, the final year covered by last week's public spending White Paper. Mr Lawson's Cabinet colleagues may not relish the prospect of battling with the

Treasury on spending again next year with one hand tied behind their backs.

No numbers adorn Mr Roy Hattersley's alternative Budget, unveiled to his constituency Labour party last night. It is not hard to understand why. Last year's Labour programme, with every extra spending proposal running into the billions, became a clear electoral embarrassment.

Mr Hattersley, by contrast, is clearly trying to present the City with the acceptable face of socialism - proposing only a "moderate" increase in public borrowing. And to industry, he is trying to present something more than acceptable - a positively appealing combination of policies to revive manufacturing.

This is a clever strategy, in two respects. Industrialists, like the rest of humanity, easily feel under-appreciated; if the Chancellor does not sweeten his Budget by making another cut in employers' national insurance surcharge, Mr Hattersley can now conveniently claim that he was in favour of abolishing it.

But meanwhile, Mr Hattersley will have scored in another political direction. His outline of Labour economic policy, in its apparent moderation, is a clear attempt to upstage the Alliance. It is hard enough to mark out a distinctive economic policy between Tory and Labour when the two are rushing to unpalatable extremes. As the Government's strategy begins to yield good results, and Mr Hattersley softens Labour's image, distinction becomes still harder for the party in the middle.

## Stock Exchange to cut costs on large gilt-edged deals

By Our City Staff

The Stock Exchange yesterday cut the cost of dealing in multi-million pound gilt-edged deals as part of its move to abolish the market's minimum commissions structure on stocks and shares. It is estimated the changes will wipe between £10m and £15m from the annual income of the big stockbroking firms, whose main revenue comes from large deals in Government stocks. Gilt dealings account for 85 per cent of the total turnover of the Stock Exchange.

The Stock Exchange's minimum commission structure is due to be abolished by the end of 1986 under its agreement with the Government last summer.

The Exchange statement said that the abolition of fixed commission on smaller gilt bargains and on all equity

## New minimum gilt-edged commissions (from April 9)

Long-dated (more than 10 years to run)	Medium-dated (5-10 years to run)
0.8% on first £2,500	0.8% on first £2,500
0.25% on next £15,500	0.125% on next £15,500
0.125% on next £232,000	0.0625% on next £232,000
0.1% on next £750,000	0.05% on next £750,000
0.09% on next £3m	0.04% on next £3m
0.04% on next £5m	0.02% on excess
0.02% on excess	

Commissions on short-dated securities remain at discretion

competitive period we've ever seen.

The commissions adjustment takes effect on April 9, the same day that fixed commissions for those dealing in overseas securities is abolished.

The Stock Exchange intends to issue a discussion document on the future structure of the market as soon as possible. It says that it would be impractical to abolish commissions before next autumn because of the measures needed to ensure the continuing liquidity and efficiency of the central market and afford proper protection to investors.

Exco International, the money broker, plans to start a London stockbroking firm later this year, according to Mr John Gunn, chief executive. He told journalists last night that he planned to use two members of Exco's Hongkong-based WICO firm as the nucleus. Exco will hold 29 per cent of the shares.

## Shares up on ICI hopes

The equity market is still hoping for a bumper set of profits from ICI tomorrow and could hardly contain its excitement yesterday as share prices continued to advance.

The FT Index closed 6.8 up at 819.3, while the Stock Exchange index of 100 leading shares rose 9.0 to 1,044. Demand again centred on specialist situations, but dealers remained in a confident mood and expect equities to race ahead once the ICI figures were announced.

Market report, page 22

## STOCK EXCHANGES

SE 100 Index: 1044.4 up 9.0 (day's high, 1044.7, low, 1038.4)  
FT Index: 819.3 up 6.8  
FT All Share: 494.30 up 3.44  
Bargains: 20.532  
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 106.99 up 0.27  
New York: Dow Jones Average: (latest) 1142.27 down 6.5  
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 9,970.64 up 32.81  
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 1068.91 down 5.90

## CURRENCIES

## LONDON CLOSE

Sterling \$1.4440 down 20pts  
Index 82.7 up 0.4  
DM 2.9150 up 0.0275  
Fr 12.0700 up 0.0075  
Yen 339.00 up 1.25  
Dollar Index 129.2 up 0.4  
DM 2.7025 up 0.0168  
NEW YORK LATEST  
Sterling \$1.4395  
Dollar DM 2.7055  
INTERNATIONAL  
ECU £0.573429  
SDR £0.726397

## INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:  
Bank base rates 9  
Finance houses base rate 9½  
Discount market loans week fixed 9½  
3 month interbank 3½½ - 9½

## GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):  
am \$388.25 pm \$389.00  
close \$388.25-388.75 (£269.00-269.50)  
New York (latest): \$385.25  
Kruggerand (per coin): \$400.00-41.50 (£277.00)  
Sovereigns (new): \$90.25-91.25 (£62.50-63.25)  
\*Excludes VAT

## Pound and dollar rise on Gulf oil fears

By Frances Williams

Economies Correspondent

The dollar and sterling gained sharply on world currency markets yesterday as fears of an interruption to the West's oil supplies from the Middle East took hold.

During hectic trading in Europe the dollar rose above DM 2.72 before subsiding near the end to close in London at DM 2.7025, 1.68 pence up on the day.

The pound, buoyed by its petro-currency status, surged ahead against the European and currencies. Its trade-weighted index rose 0.4 to 82.7 per cent of its 1975 value, the highest level reached this year, with a gain of 2.75 pence to DM 3.9150 and 1.25 yen to ¥339.

Against the dollar the pound remained fairly steady, losing only 20 points to \$1.4440, after rising above \$1.45 earlier in the day.

Dealers said yesterday that it was too early to say whether the recent decline in the dollar would now be reversed - but there was no doubt that the market had had a bad attack of nerves after the latest flare-up in the Gulf war, reinforced by concern over the situation in Lebanon. If those fears persisted the dollar and sterling might strengthen further, they suggested.

The price of gold, which might have been expected to rise in the wake of the Middle East conflict, scarcely moved finishing in London at \$388.50 an ounce. High American interest rates and the prospect of currency gains elsewhere are overriding its role as a safe haven.

A calmer atmosphere prevailed in early New York trading after hectic dealings in London, with the dollar remaining fairly steady.

Most dealers appear to take the view that the dollar is still set for a fall in the longer term and that the present flurry is an interruption to the downward trend.

Growing anxieties over swollen United States budget and trade deficits have now begun to outweigh the attractions of high interest rates. The failure of the dollar to respond positively to encouraging economic data last week has been taken as a clear signal that the currency has peaked.

Though former Eurodollar interest rates were mentioned yesterday as a factor in the dollar's advance, dealers pointed out that rates had risen last week without any perceptible effect.

However, if Middle East tensions persist or worsen the traditional attractions of the dollar may reassert themselves. There are growing fears that the Federal Reserve may move to tighten credits, and push up interest rates to dampen the booming economy which threatens to spark off a resurgence of inflation.

## London Brick board strengthens defence

By Jeremy Warner

London Brick today posts the last of its formal defence documents to shareholders amid growing confidence among its directors that the company will survive Hanson Trust's nine-week takeover siege.

The £247m bid reaches its climax next Tuesday and all the indications are that the result will be finely balanced. Hanson only needs another 21 per cent of the shares to win but while success seemed almost certain when it raised its bid for the third time to 165p a share in cash a week ago, market observers are now beginning to doubt that it has done enough to win the day.

One fund manager said that Hanson may have made a grave tactical error in raising its share stake to 30 per cent over the last week in a series of market raids. "This indicates to me that Hanson will return with another bid in a year's time if it loses this one, underwriting the share price and providing London Brick with the incentive to perform."

"If Hanson has not raised its share stake, people might have been frightened into accepting the bid in the belief that the company would go away for good if rejected," he added.

This argument, that with London Brick shares yielding over 7 per cent shareholders will lose nothing by sticking with the company for another year with Hanson in the background, has been exploited to the full by the company's merchant bank, Lazard Brothers, in an intensive lobby of leading shareholders over the past few days.

Some have been told of comments that Lord Hanson is reputed to have made to Mr Jeremy Rowe, London Brick's chairman, at the beginning of the takeover battle. He is believed to have said that owning London Brick had been an unsustainable dream for him when his company was smaller and that it had always been his intention to acquire it once big enough.

In the stock market London Brick's shares are standing at a 3p discount to Hanson's cash terms and are well below the value of the convertible loan stock alternative offer because of fears that the bid may fail.

Today's defence document will, underline the company's desire for continued independence.

## Indicators confirm recovery

By Our Economics Correspondent

The recovery looks set to continue throughout the coming year, according to the latest set of indicators which signal the course of the British economy.

The longer leading index, which foreshadows turning points in the economy about 12 months ahead, rose again last month, continuing the upward trend which, with few interruptions, has been sustained for three years.

The Government's economic forecast, to be published next month with the Budget, is expected to reaffirm growth this year of 3 per cent, the same as last year, with the upswing continuing into 1985.

The January longer leading index is based on only three of the five components and may be revised later. Higher share prices have been the main cause of the rise in recent months but the other components have also contributed, the Central Statistical Office said.

The shorter leading index, which looks about six months ahead, also rose again in January, based on two of the five components.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## UK backs freer rules on imports

Britain is to argue for a liberalization of the rules of origin governing imports into the European Community from the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries under the Lomé Convention.

The proposals may include abolishing the "safeguard" clause designed to protect leading European industries like textiles.

A paper drafted by the Department of Trade and Industry also looks at amending the rules of origin so that African, Caribbean and Pacific countries may export more freely to the EC, goods not wholly made in their areas.

Wall Street prices remained lower in moderate early trading yesterday and the Dow Jones industrial average was down fractionally at about 1,148. Losing issues held a six to five lead over gainers. The volume was 16 million shares.

A venture capital investment trust is being launched by Statham Duff Sloop, the stockbrokers, with Mr Edward du Cann as chairman. It will raise up to £5m by selling up to 20 million shares at 25p each to the public. It expects to invest £1.75m in the first six months and has three high technology companies already lined up.

Steel and foundries group F. H. Lloyd Holdings has taken over Rolland, a supplier of high quality fasteners to the oil, gas and petrochemical industries, in a £950,000 deal as part of its expansion into oil and offshore supplies.

Shareholders in Oil and Associated Investment Trust have been advised by their board to reject a bid for the company by Cluff Oil.

## Franchising sales may soar to £1bn level

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

With franchising penetrating new sectors in Britain, sales are growing 16 per cent a year, and the British Franchise Association is predicting overall sales of nearly £1bn by the end of this year. The number of jobs in franchising by this year's end is expected to have risen by two-thirds in two years to a total of about 50,000.

About 5,000 franchised businesses have now been established in Britain, Mr Brian Smith, the newly elected chairman of the BFA said yesterday.

But franchising has branched out well beyond the fast-food chains with which it tends to be identified.

Amicare Group Services with headquarters at Shoreham, Sussex, is franchising a veterinary service. Aids Computer Services in Finchley, London, is an accountancy franchise which also offers a company "doctor" service.

Among the older established franchise operations the Wimpy fast food chain is planning to add another 20 outlets this year.

## Foreign collaboration if AE bid fails

## GKN finds merger alternative

By Andrew Cornelius

Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds plans to conclude a series of collaboration deals with foreign motor component manufacturers, if it fails in its attempt to takeover rival Midlands components manufacturer AE, formerly Associated Engineering.

The plan will be invoked if GKN's takeover bid is blocked by the Government on monopoly grounds, or if the AE board launches a successful defence against a renewed takeover attempt by GKN.

Sir Trevor Holdsworth, chairman of GKN, said, in an interview with *The Times*, "if we do not conclude the AE takeover we would follow our alternative plan within three to six months."

He said that the plan had been carefully researched by GKN after the decision last September by the Government to refer the £67m takeover for investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.



Sir Trevor Holdsworth: not ideal options

GKN has close contacts with most of the world's leading component makers and is determined to expand its presence in the engine components field by exploiting its contacts with motor manufacturers like Ford and General Motors.

Sir Trevor added that the alternatives to merging with AE

were all outside Britain and were not "ideal".

He gave a warning that if the Government did decide to reject GKN's argument that the motor components market should be treated as a European, or world market, rather than a British market then it could have potentially disastrous consequences for the British motor industry.

The logic of the merger with AE is as valid now as it was when GKN first launched its takeover attempt last year according to Sir Trevor.

"Nothing has altered to change the logic for putting together a strong engine parts group," he added.

GKN maintains that although there may be some hostility from buyers in the field over the proposed merger of AE and GKN to create a monopoly supply of engine components like bearings, cylinder liners and pistons, there is no hostility from senior management at leading motor manufacturers.



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## Top Flight Secretary/PA

to President-European Division North London

This is an attractive opportunity to work for the President of the European Division of Matchbox Toys Ltd, one of the world's leading toy manufacturers, at the company's Head Office in Enfield, Middlesex.

In addition to providing a first-class secretarial service, you should possess the ability and resourcefulness to carry out a wide variety of administrative tasks which will include dealing with social and personal matters. You must be a car owner and have the flexibility to work irregular hours, when necessary.

Aged 25-35, you should have a good all-round education and be a self-starter, with excellent secretarial skills and minimum speeds of 120/80. Experience of dealing with overseas offices would be an advantage. This demanding but rewarding role will appeal to high fliers who are seeking to advance their careers within an international environment.

Please write with full details to: V. L. Sykes (Miss), Personnel Officer, Matchbox Toys Limited, Marlborough Trading Estate, Lincoln Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN1 1SP.

Closing date: 5th March, 1984.

**MATCHBOX**

## Well established - does it mean old-fashioned?

Not in our case. Although Challoners can certainly boast of a history of over 100 years, our services are thoroughly up to date. Why else would so many top class clients and candidates keep coming back to us? But don't take our word for it - put us to the test. Some of our current career opportunities are outlined briefly below.

**QUALITY** £10,000  
Superior talents are sought for a prestige City PA/Secretarial appointment in a Corporate Finance & Services Unit - working at Director level with distinct organisational & administrative overtones - essential. An excellent benefits package is offered in addition to salary.

**FINANCE** £9,000  
High commitment and superb formal skills are essential in this PA role. Working for the MD, previous paper in Finance or Banking would be an asset, but professional & initiative, limited to top level background, could count for more.

**KNIGHTSBRIDGE** £8,500+  
The Managing Director of the UK arm of an American major, operating from a small HQ here, is seeking key support from a professional. True involvement, including liaison with the MD, is offered in this challenging role, to the warm, dedicated personality with excellent previous top-level experience.

**ARCHIVES** £28,300  
A rare, superb opportunity for an articulate Personal/Editorial Secretary to offer key support to a Professor engaged on fascinating historical work. Performance will be given to a Graduate, well versed in library-based research, with some knowledge of editorial sequences on a WP.

**MARKETING** £27,400  
Promote, we say, but unusual interest in a busy, busy job as Secretary to an Agency Executive. Ideal for the dynamic young person with the enthusiasm & wit to go into the attack! Super conditions & lovely people!

**GRADUATE** £8,000  
An excellent opportunity within a major City organisation for the intelligent individual - with good typing - wishing to pursue a career in Personnel. A degree in Social Science/Law/Economics is essential, as is the intention to pursue IPM studies.

**AND OF COURSE...**  
TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS at top rates, for Secretarial, PA, Typing personnel - both short & long-term.

If you are interested in any of the above positions, please contact any of our branches throughout Central London or call in or phone one of the branches below.

19-23 Oxford St. W1. Tel: 01-437 9030

131-133 Cannon St. EC4. Tel: 01-626 8315

## Challoners Recruitment Consultants

### Bilingual Secretary

Required to work for the SECRETARY GENERAL of the General Association of International Sports Federations, based at the Sports Council's Headquarters Offices in Euston.

Good English/French secretarial skills (including audio) and previous experience essential, together with fluent written/spoken French. Other languages useful.

The appointee must be capable of working on his/her own initiative, as the Secretary General is frequently required to travel abroad; his secretary may have the opportunity to accompany him on occasion.

The appointment will be for an initial period of nine months, with the possibility of an extension to this limit. Starting salary £8,000 per annum, plus fringe benefits.

Further details and application forms from:

Paul Burgin,

01-388 1277 ext 208

Closing date:

5th March 1984



### ADMINISTRATOR

Management consultancy in NW1 are seeking an enthusiastic administrator to assist in the day to day running of the company.

Ideally you will be 25+ with previous experience in bookkeeping and administration. Typing skills and a knowledge of word processors would be an advantage but most importantly you will be capable of acting on your own initiative and have a desire to learn and be involved with all aspects of running a small office.

Salary will be commensurate with skills and experience.

Please write with your cv to Jill McKenzie, KIA MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS, 9 Parkway, London NW1 7PG

### ADVERTISING MANAGER

Major institution is looking for a good shorthand secretary. Salary £7000 + mg p.a.

**W1 AD AGENCY**  
needs bright, bubbly, organised CV for A/E Handling. Opportunity for promotion. Sal £7000 p.a.

**W2 PR CO**  
needs good CV for 2 bosses. £6000 neg. Start immediately. We are also looking for 2 Receptionists both for W1 clients, one with typing 60/60. Sal circa £7000 p.a.

Ring Sally Owens or Heather Myers  
01-235 4227, 4 Post St, SW1

### KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES

is seeking a well educated Secretary to work for an education and training Officer. Good Secretarial and administrative skills, including shorthand for this interesting and varied post. Candidates must be able to act on their own initiative and work as part of a small friendly team in modern well equipped offices. Salary up to £7,000 + L.V. 5 weeks holiday. Apply in writing with CV to:

Julia Watson, The Engineering Council  
Canberra House, 10/16a Maitland Street, London WC2R 3ER

### SECRETARY/PA

Experienced Sec/PA required for Chairman/MD of Building Contractors in SW1. Ability to organise social functions. Good appearance, clean driving licence, non-smoker, aged 35/45, speeds 100/60. Salary c £7,500, company car, profit sharing, good holidays.

CVs in confidence to: 228 Vauxhall Bridge Rd., London SW1V, with daytime telephone number.

### SECRETARY/PA

£8,250+  
To work for Director of leading Food Importing Company. We are looking for 'A' level education, secretarial experience at high level, ability to work on own initiative, pleasant manners and appearance. Send cv to: Gloria Harrison, 60 Borough High Street, London, SE1 1TA, marked confidential.

### RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST

Salary £6,500  
Required by W1 Solicitors. Good appearance, friendly manner and good shorthand. Able to operate a word processor essential. Age 19-30. 1.5% + 4 weeks holiday and bonus.

Contact Lynne Walters on 01-699 6711 (No agencies)

### PERSON FRIDAY

£8000  
Develop and learn the business of the young rapidly expanding PC Co. from reception and answering to WP (not just) and Apple computer - who knows what will happen next? You'll need 50 wpm, accurate typing and at least 5 O levels in English. Age 22-26.

LOVE & TATE APPOINTMENTS 283 0111

### ASSISTANT SECRETARY

required for City office, duties include shorthand and typing, operating a laser, films, notes, reception and additional general office work. Languages would be an advantage, a flexible approach to work is essential. Good prospects.

Write Box No 2382 H The Times

### BANISH SPEAKING SECRETARY

£8,000+  
Prestigious merchant bank, urgently seeks a Danish Speaking Secretary (English Speaking skills essential) for Danish Speaking Manager. Make full use of your language & enjoy excellent benefits.

Call Proulx Recruitment 580 5522

### ASSISTANT SECRETARY

required for City office, duties include shorthand and typing, operating a laser, films, notes, reception and additional general office work. Languages would be an advantage, a flexible approach to work is essential. Good prospects.

Write Box No 2382 H The Times

## Wang Supervisor

up to £9,000

The British National Oil Corporation, one of the world's largest oil traders, is looking for a fully trained supervisor for its Wang OIS 140 System.

The Wang Supervisor will be responsible for the maintenance and efficiency of the System, identifying and developing new applications, providing training for staff and providing operational support, where necessary, to the various Departments.

The position requires a thorough knowledge of the Wang OIS 140 System, especially the supervisory functions, along with highly developed communication and training skills.

Candidates must have been educated to at least 'A' level standard and will have had 5 years' secretarial experience of which a minimum of 3 years' must have been in word processing. They must also have had previous experience of word processor training.

A salary negotiable up to £9,000 is accompanied by a wide range of benefits, including free BUPA membership, Private Health Insurance, 4 weeks' holiday and a subsidised staff restaurant.

If your qualifications and experience match the requirements for this position telephone 01-408 1840 Extension 3231 for an application form or write giving full details to The Personnel Manager, The British National Oil Corporation, 29 Bolton Street, London W1Y 8BN.

Applications should be received by 6th March 1984.

**BNOC**

**The British National Oil Corporation**

## ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

25-30 required to act as PA to the Secretary of an expanding learned Society. Good shorthand and typing speeds essential with the ability to work under pressure on own initiative. A cheerful outgoing personality would be a distinct advantage as this post involves a lot of direct contact with the Fellowship.

Starting salary c £7,000, 4 weeks 4 days annual holidays. Season ticket loan and L.V.

Please apply with CV and names of two referees to:

R M Bateman Esq, Executive Secretary

THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Barlington House, Piccadilly, London W1V 0JU.

By Friday 2 March.

"I feel fresh as a daisy..."

"Electrified, he's booked our Guinness temp permanently"

"Exp. Exp. to that!"

21 Brunton Arcade, Brunton Road, Knightsbridge, London SW1

01-589 8807

JOYCE GUINNESS BUREAU

CONFERENCE ORGANISER

We have a unique opportunity for a bright, self motivated and creative person to work for a dynamic city group specialising in financial seminars and conferences. Your responsibilities will include liaison with speakers and guests, press and publicity arrangements together with the monitoring of budgets and background research, proven administrative flair, and fast typing essential, financial experience an advantage. Age 23-35, Salary negotiable minimum £8,000.

Please call 588 3535

Crone Corkill

Recruitment Consultants

SECRETARY/PA

Fast growing offshore engineering group requires PA/Secretary, responsible to the Technical Director, to work in the company head office in Hammersmith.

Applicants should be smart, intelligent (min 2 'A' levels) and have word processing experience (IBM preferred) as well as the usual skills (shorthand, audio, telex, Car driver and non-smoker preferred). Salary circa £8,000. Age 20-35. Please call Miss J West on 01-748 4606.

Lively Secretary £6,700

Responsible position supervising an assistant and providing full secretarial and administrative support to four managers involved in a variety of aspects of our lively, dynamic, Fund-raising Division. Good shorthand necessary. New position due to relocation, so a very real opportunity to develop the job with good prospects for promotion.

Minimum age 24. Three years' secretarial experience essential. Season ticket loan, 4 weeks' holiday.

Please phone Chris Owens on 01-253 0262

Help the Aged, 33 St James's Place, London SW1R 0EE (No agencies please)

SECRETARY/PA

ST JAMES based firm (near Green Park underground) of Commercial Estate Agents require lively dynamic Secretary/PA for a Partner and Assistant dealing with office lettings and development work. Friendly atmosphere, pleasant working conditions offered in return for intelligence and initiative. No shorthand. Hours 10am-6pm. Starting salary £7,500 p.a. Plus L.V. 4 weeks holiday.

Contact Angela Rhodes on 01-629 9100

PA SECRETARY £8,000+

A well qualified secretary is required to be the Chairman of a dynamic, international design consultancy. The fast growing company is involved in packaging design and marketing projects with prestigious clients both in the UK and overseas. The ideal candidate should be self-motivated, articulate and flexible. Good secretarial skills are essential, as is a well presented manner.

Please send your cv to:

DAVID TAYLOR DESIGN CONSULTANTS LTD 33 Cork Street London W1

ADVERTISING OR PUBLISHING

ARE YOU: A well presented and organised Secretary? DO YOU HAVE: Good speeds, lively personality and a willingness to learn? ARE YOU WORTH: An excellent starting salary with 4 wks hols. S.T.I. & L.V.?

YES? Then phone Peter on 637 7697

Cavendish Personnel Recr Cons

OFFICE MANAGER to £14,000

The person the SW1 company is seeking will already be an office manager with a legal accountancy or consulting background who is accustomed to controlling a team. Numeracy, the ability to deal with VAT, PAYE and accounts receivable and essential, as is the capability to organise workloads and ensure a high standard of work in the best preferred age 30s.

Bernadette of Bond St.

Recruitment Consultants

No 55 (next door to Fortis) 01-629 1294

AD AGENCY P.A./SEC

23 - 10,000

You'll need excellent SH/PA ing. LOTS of Office Exp. + a dynamic personality to keep up with the fast moving.

Please ring Gillian Knight at the Agency on 01 488 8992

PA/SECRETARY

Required for busy private general practice in Knightsbridge for 2 Doctors. Bright personality needed to cope with constant rewarding contact with people. Shorthand/typing/word processing essential, previous medical experience helpful but not essential. 9am-6pm.

Salary £7,000 p.a. Telephone 01-235 3092

## Senior Secretary to £9,000 EC2

The Managing Director of this well known city bank is looking for a personal assistant with excellent shorthand and typing skills, the ability to use a word processor and preferably with a financial background.

Secretary to £8,600

Ideal position with a large international company for a real 'go-getter' with determination and ambition. Secretarial skills appropriate to Director level experience a must and the overall package reflects the seniority of this position.

We also have temporary assignments both long and short term in all areas.

For further details please call Alison Davis at Brook Street Senior Secretarial Appointments on 486 5144 for an immediate appointment or call in to see her at 136 Baker Street, London W1.

**BROOK STREET BUREAU**

All an employment service should be

## The Tea Council

PA/SECRETARY TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Age 25+

c £7,500

The Tea Council undertakes all aspects of the generic promotion of tea throughout the UK. The PA/Secretary will be required to ensure a smooth running office, have excellent secretarial skills, a flexible approach and initiative.

Working as part of a small professional team you will be encouraged to use and promote your own specific talents within all aspects of the Tea Council's activities, which includes public relations, promotions and advertising. The office is near Cannon Street and Blackfriars Stations. Hours are 9.30 to 5.00 with 4 weeks' holiday.

Interested? Please ring 01-248 1024 for further details.

## PA/SECRETARY

Young director and his team require an experienced, enthusiastic and motivated PA/Secretary to work in a busy environment for an international consultancy. The successful applicant is likely to be in their mid-thirties with impeccable secretarial skills. In return we offer an excellent salary package, including L.V. season ticket loan, etc. Applications should be made in writing, enclosing c.v., to:

Miss R. Y. ENRIGHT  
CHEM SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL LTD  
28 ST. JAMES'S SQUARE,  
LONDON, SW1

## PA with FLAIR c. £9,000

Two Directors responsible for the co-ordination of an international trading group are seeking a 1st class PA who is a self-starter with excellent communication skills and possesses bags of initiative and intelligence, self-assurance. A level education and top skills (100/60) are essential in this envolved and stimulating position, age 24-30. Please telephone

Joanna Ashmore on 453 5787  
GORDON YATES LTD  
35 Old Bond St, London W1X 4LB  
(Recruitment Consultants)

## UP TO ADMIN? UP TO £8,500

Just shows you don't have to be a secretary to get a well paid office job! In this case, you'd be an Administration Supervisor for the 220 people in the Head Office of a very large company just across the River from the City. That means supervising a staff of six + post clerks, receptionist, commissionaire and stationary storeman. And assisting the Administration Manager. Office experience, preferably supervising a small team, is essential, and you should be able to type to Level English and Maths, self-motivated, organised and a sense of humour are important, and you must be well spoken, well turned out, calm under pressure. Age 27 to 40. Funny hours: 8 am-4 pm. Big company benefits. Ring

01-734 7282  
MARY OVERTON  
RECRUITMENT LIMITED  
35 Piccadilly, London W1V 9PB

## ADVERTISING CHALLENGE

7,500 Neg

We are a large International Advertising Agency in Mayfair and are seeking a PA secretary to assist our Media Director in the efficient running of our busy Media Department.

This position would appeal to a well educated intelligent secretary with excellent skills and some experience at a senior level who has the ability to liaise with both our staff and clients using tact and initiative. We offer a friendly working environment, sub restaurant/wine bar and co shop. If you would like further details please telephone SUSANNA JACOBSEN on 629 9496.

01-734 7282

MARY OVERTON

RECRUITMENT LIMITED

35 Piccadilly, London W1V 9PB

Director's Secretary/PA

Medium sized company conveniently located in Southwark. Applicants should have good shorthand typing and office skills. Audio and video WP experience an advantage. Presentation, initiative and good organisational ability essential. Prolonged age 24-38. Salary negotiable £7,500.

Application and CV to: Managing Director, Kestrel Data (UK) Ltd, 114-118 Southwark Bridge Rd, London SE1 0EP.

Design & Print

Director of West London design and print group requires a PA/Secretary to assist in the day to day administration of the group. Must be able to work on own initiative and handle clients and suppliers. Shorthand and typing essential, age 25+. Salary £7,000+.

Please phone Martin Harris to arrange an interview on 01-731 2115

AMERICAN BANK P.A./SECRETARY

£7,500-£9,500 + Mortgage  
We wish to recruit a ready Super Senior Secretary. Age 25-35 with excellent skills, smart appearance, and some travel/PA experience. This is to join a Senior Vice President and is a prestigious position with real involvement. Long term role.

Contact Debra Vu  
Recruitment Consultants  
606 4711

c. £10,000 OVERSEAS

Our client, a multinational consultancy, seeks two Exec P.A. Secretaries (1) Frankfurt based. German/English for general Manager (2) Brussels based. French/English for M.D. of Personnel. Age 25-40, keen, astute.

Marlene Lamer Personnel Consultants  
10 Wigmore Street W1

TV W1 £8,400

Sec to Head of Personnel. 5 weeks hols. This is a responsible position with an emphasis on industrial relations and highly confidential matters so would require a mature personality (25+). Ideally you will be self-motivated, relatively experienced with excellent shorthand and typing (110/70).

Please telephone Debbie today  
Misprestige Rec Cons  
54 Regent St, W1, 457 4141

## SECRETARY WANTED

To work in the Mayfair Office of a Development Company. Applicants will be literate, responsible and presentable and will possess shorthand and typing skills to a high standard. The person appointed will be expected to help in the running of the office and must be able to work unattended when required.

A substantial salary will be paid for what will be a demanding job.

Apply in writing please, enclosing your CV, direct to David Little, Testland Development Company Limited, 49 Old Bond Street, London, W1X 3AF.

NO AGENCIES

## CANADIAN STOCKBROKER

Requires experienced Secretary with knowledge of North American Security Markets.

Salary negotiable

Apply Box 2383 H, The Times

## PA/SECRETARY

and a sense of humour

The young director of this large leisure industry near London Bridge is looking for someone with a sense of humour to work







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[illegible]

TE 639.  
MARTIN, Prof. m/f, non-smo-  
r, 1954, 5'10" in c/w hts. \$120 pmo.  
765-0220.  
WANTED: SHARPE NON-SMOK-  
ING. Must have share flat with 1 f. &  
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TE 639.  
MARTIN, Prof. m/f, non-smo-  
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WANTED: SHARPE NON-SMOK-  
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**NORTH OF THAMES**  
Continued from page 29

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# CONCERTS

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**Edited by Peter Dear**

TV-3 am:

**6.25 Good Morning Britain** presented by Nick Owen and Jayne Irving. News at 6.30; Gordon Home News at 6.30; 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00 sport at 6.35 and 7.35; alarm call at 8.40 and 8.45; exercise at 8.50; and 8.55; odd anniversaries at 7.05 and 8.05; a guest in the Spotlight at 7.25; cartoon at 7.25; Pat Phoenix at 7.40 and 8.45; pop video at 7.55; Ruth Madoc's magic moments at 8.10; Eve Polanco's gossip column at 8.35.

### 9.03 Roland Rat.

**Lynne and Peter Land:**

● Following the surprising but deserved success of the first series of VOICES (Channel 4, 11.00pm) in which the esoteric was argued at an accessible level, the second series, a second series begins tonight in the same vein with Ted Honderich, Professor of Philosophy at University College, London, chairing a discussion between John Searle, Distinguished University Professor at the University of California, Berkeley, and Sir John Eccles, a Nobel Prize-winning neurologist, on the relationship between the mind and the brain. It is a very good programme with a limited audience appeal and I admit to going to the preview with mixed feelings. But I found the cut and thrust of the two antagonists a stimulating experience. On the one hand, Sir John Eccles, a quiet-spoken theist

every grandmother's bookshelf, **THE COUNTRY DIARY OF AN**

with the most devastating way of answering questions with a single "yes," on the other, Professor Searle, a flamboyant atheist using words I've never heard of or likely to again "now we know that royal secretions synthesize a substance called angiotensin and that the angiotensin time limit is hyperthalamus and causes a series of neuron firings". Obviously he uses the word "we" in the royal sense but thanks to the firm chairmanship of Professor Worderich the flights into the highly technical and abstract and we are treated to the pleasure and obvious battle of opposing ideas conducted in a gentlemanly fashion.

● The book that must be on nearly

every grandmother's bookshelf. **THE COUNTRY DIARY OF AN EDWARDIAN LADY** (ITV 7.00pm) has been skilfully adapted by Elaine Funnell, who has brought the two parts and stars Pippa Guard as the Edwardian lady, Edith Holden. The series is not just a nature ramble through a 12 month period but contains much more, including a hint from Miss Holden's year that are not contained in the diary. In tonight's opening episode we learn of the family and how Edith's father, a painter and varnish factor in Birmingham goes through hard times; that she seems to have the capability to take messages from her cat more than from her mother, and with the help of flashbacks, how she came to have such an interest in nature. A gentle opener that bodes

Vivaldi's Gloria in D major, RV 585 (Margaret Marshall, sop; Ann Murray, mezzo; and English Chamber Choir)  
9.05 This Week's Composer: Herbert Howells, *The Procession*, Op 36 (English Chamber Choir, conducted by Philip Langridge (tenor), with Eric Parry (bass); Ralph S. Smith (Horn); and the orchestra, played by Ruth Dyson; Elegy Op 15 (Herbert Downes, viola New Philharmonia); and the orchestra (Robert Gower, organ))  
10.00 Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields: Weber's *Symph No 2*; and Chopin's *No 1* for double string orchestra.  
0.45 Beethoven: *Chaconne* (Klein (piano))  
1.15 Chicago Symphony Orchestra: Bach (arr Schoenberg) *Schmucke dich, mein Gott*; Chopin: *Scherzo*; Stravinsky (*Symphony of Poets*); Stravinsky (*Symphony of Poets*); Stravinsky (*Symphony of Poets*); Stravinsky (*Symphony of Poets*)

9.50 Schubert: Paratore Piano Trio play the Grand Duo.  
10.30 The Genius of Venice: Secular chamber music of the 16th and 17th centuries. Performed by Emma Kirkby (sop), David Thomas (bass) and the Consort of Musicks.  
11.15 News. Until 11.18.  
WHF only - Open University: 6.35-6.55am Open Forum: Students' Magazine. 11.20-11.40pm Education for Adults.

## Radio 2

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### Radio 1

**Radio 1**  
News on the half-hour from 6.30am until 9.30pm and then 12.0 midnight (mw/mw).  
6.00am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read.  
9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Mike Smith, incl 12.30 Newsbeat. 7.00 David Jensen.  
10.00-12.00 John Peel. 1 VHF Radio 1 and 2. 4.00am With Radio 2. 8.00pm Hit List. 8.30 BBC Radio Orchestra. 9.15 Listen to the Band. 10.00 With Radio 1. 12.00-4.00am With Radio 2.

## WORLD SERVICE

10. **Twenty-Four Hours**, 1.26 **Live With Us** 1.26  
 11. **4.35 Report on Religion**, 0.80 **World News**, 0.78  
 12. **Reflections**, 0.75 **World News**, 0.75  
 13. **Reflections**, 0.75 **Pennies**, 0.70 **Crucial**, 0.50  
 14. **World News**, 0.50 **World News**, 0.50  
 15. **The British Press**, 0.18 **The World Today**, 0.20  
 16. **World News**, 0.18 **World News**, 0.18  
 17. **Anyplace**, 0.18 **Laugh**, 0.15 **Rock Back**, 0.15  
 18. **Crucial**, 0.10 **The World Today**, 0.10 **News**, 0.10  
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### Radio 3

**8.55** Weather, 7.00 News.  
**7.05** Your Midweek Choice: part one.  
 Smetana's Sárka (Ma Vlast);  
 Arensky's Suite No 1 for two  
 pianos (Adolf and Mikhail  
 Gottlieb); Dvorak's String Quartet  
 in A flat, Op 105 (Prague String  
 Quartet). 1 8.00 News.  
**8.05** Your Midweek Choice: part two.  
 Haydn's Divertimento in C  
 (London Baroque Ensemble);  
 Soler's Sonata in B minor, R 10

### REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

**CHANNEL 4** As London except: 12.30pm-1.30pm  
5.15-5.45 Joe 90, 6.00 Channel Report  
6.30-7.00 Crossroads, 12.00 Preview.  
12.30pm Closedown.

**BURULSTER** As London except: 9.25  
am-9.30 Day Ahead, 1.30-1.40  
News, 1.40-1.50 News, 2.30-2.40  
World of Sport, 6.00 Good Evening  
Liverpool, 6.35-7.00 Crossroads, 12.00  
News. Closedown.

**BORDER** As London except:  
1.20pm-1.30 News, 3.30-  
4.00 Young Doctors, 6.35-7.00  
Crossroads 12.00 News. Closedown.

**HTV** As London except: 12.30pm-  
1.00 Vintage Quiz, 1.20-1.30  
News, 2.30 Mysteries of Edgar Wallace\*  
3.30-4.00 Young Doctors, 6.00 News,  
6.35-7.00 Crossroads, 12.00 Tow of Us  
12.30pm Closedown.

**HTV WALES** As HTV West except:  
6.00pm-6.35 Wales

**TVS** As London except: 12.30pm-1.00  
Crown Court, 1.20 News, 1.30  
Afternoon Quiz, 1.35-1.50  
Miracles Take Longer, 2.40 Mr and Mrs.  
3.10 News, 3.50-4.10 A to Z, 6.00-6.35  
Coast to Coast, 12.00 Preview, 12.30pm  
Company. Closedown.

**TSW** As London except: 1.20-1.30  
News 5.15 GUS Honeybun 5.20-  
5.45 Crossroads 6.00 Tow of Us 6.30-7.00  
Scene South West 12.00  
Preview 12.30pm Postscript,  
Closedown.

**CENTRAL** As London except:  
12.30pm-1.00 Crown  
Court, 1.20 News, 1.30 Three Little  
Words, 2.30 Miracles Take Longer,  
2.30-3.00 We'll Meet Again, 6.00  
Crossroads, 6.25-7.00 News, 12.00  
Closedown.

**SCOTCH** As London except:  
1.20pm-1.30 News  
3.30-4.00 Adventurers 5.10 Action Line  
5.20-5.45 Crossroads 6.00 Scotland  
News, 6.30-7.00 News, 12.00  
Closedown.

**YORKSHIRE** As London except:  
1.20mm-1.30 News

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## THEATRES

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**PAUL NICHOLAS**  
THE FUNNIEST MUSIC

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116 VICTORIA 828 8664  
 77 Party Bookings 828  
 930 6123

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]



# US Marines begin retreat from Lebanon

From Robert Fisk  
Beirut

Without any attempt to prevent the Muslim militias taking possession of their sophisticated underground fortifications around Beirut airport, the American Marines who came to Lebanon 18 months ago with such hopes of restoring sovereignty to the country began their retreat yesterday in squadrons of Sea Stallion helicopters that airlifted both men and machines out to the US Sixth Fleet every 15 minutes throughout the day.

As if to emphasize their military failure, Israeli aircraft flew high over the Americans' last positions during the morning to bomb villages and towns now held by Druze and Palestinian guerrillas high in the mountains to the east.

No representative of the Lebanese Government - no symbol of the authority they came here to support - turned up at the airport to bid farewell to the first Marines to leave or to commiserate with them on the sacrifice they paid in vain for Lebanon: 259 dead since September 1982.

Gunmen riding motorcycles along the coastal highway watched without emotion as the plant helicopters freighted the first-line troops out to the American warships that steamed along the horizon. It was a melancholy day.

By Sunday, all 1,300 Marines based around the airport are expected to have left Lebanon. They have no intention of destroying the deep underground bunkers - made up of containers sunk into the earth beside the airport runways - in which they have lived for the past three months. "Anyone who wants them is welcome to them", a young Marine officer said.

A military commander of the Amal militia dismissively announced that his organization did not even want the American bunkers for the past two weeks the Marines in any case have been totally encircled by the victorious Muslim militias of west Beirut.

The steady disintegration and withdrawal of the multinational force is now creating great anxiety in west Beirut where rumours that Israeli troops were storming ashore at Khaleel just south of the airport on Monday night started a panic among thousands of civilians in the capital. The reports, disseminated by the Phalangist Voice of Lebanon radio, also claimed that an Israeli gunboat was shelling the Chatila Palestinian camp. All the broadcasts proved to

be untrue but there is a growing fear in the west of the capital that the Israelis, unable to rid themselves of the unfounded suspicion that Palestine Liberation Organization battalions are reassembling in Beirut, may soon bomb the city itself, just as they did in 1981 and 1982.

Israeli patrols far north of the Israeli front line at the Awali river and this week's air raid on Damour are regarded by the Druze as a warning not to allow Palestinian guerrillas to infiltrate Beirut or the countryside south of the capital.

"There is no evidence that armed Palestinians are in the city or along the battlefield to the south. Israeli armour south of Damour has prevented the Druze and Shia Muslim militias from advancing farther down the coastal highway although they still intend to consolidate a small pocket of territory nominally controlled by Lebanon Government troops in the Kharoub region.



Life goes on: Armed men on patrol in Beirut are a common sight (above) but a money changer finds a customer on a street corner for more mundane matters. (Photographs: Judah Passow).



## Massive Israeli show of strength

Continued from page 1

AK47 rifle, aware that the column was intended also to give encouragement to beleaguered Christians now tenuously holding positions between the Awali and Damour.

It was not until yesterday afternoon, 24 hours later, that Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, confirmed that a "bigger than usual" Israeli column had been operating for a day and a night north of the Awali. Aware of the controversial nature of the move, Mr Arens emphasized that the troops had returned to the defence line by sunset. But he said that such patrolling would continue.

On Monday, the Israeli column was occasionally cheered by the hundreds of frightened-looking Lebanese Christian refugees sitting in an assortment of overloaded cars, trucks, and vans waiting to enter southern Lebanon to join the 20,000 of their co-religionists who have fled south from the latest fighting.

Many are now living in public buildings or crammed into Christian towns like Jezzine, preferring not to remain in Muslim-dominated Sidon for fear of future sectarian bloodshed. Many told me they had fled from three Christian areas a few miles north of the Awali now being shelled nightly by Druze artillery in the hills.

As the tanks clanked past the small car being driven by Mr. Elias Butros, an electrical engineer from a Christian town in the Chouf, each one shook the giant, gold-plated chandelier strapped precariously on top of his vehicle. It was all that the 50-year-old Christian had managed to salvage from his new villa.

"For the Christians, the army is finished. We did not want to stay fighting any longer," explained Mr Tony Cessian, an unshaven man who appeared to have very little stomach for a fight with anyone. Asked where he was going he replied: "Anywhere. I am going south."

Throughout southern Lebanon, there is confusion about Israel's intentions, reinforced by this apparent switch in military strategy north of the Awali. Mr Mohammad Ghaddar, spokesman for the Amal Muslim militia in Sidon, claimed angrily that only an Israeli withdrawal would end the rapidly mounting resentment against the Israelis among the Shia Muslim majority in southern Lebanon.

Leading article, page 15

Frank Johnson in Iowa

## Upstaged by the old sportscaster

The day of the Iowa caucuses dawned, and by the afternoon President Reagan was in the State campaigning. On the Republican side, Mr Reagan's candidature for the Presidency was uncontested. But there were eight Democratic candidates. The Iowa caucuses then, had nothing to do with Mr Reagan, and were all about the eight Democrats, which was why Mr Reagan descended on Iowa.

With television pictures being projected to the rest of America of eight Democrats against the background of one of the most wholesome parts of the nation, the Leader of the Free World could not stand idly by. He arrived and explained at once what a relief it was to get out of Washington.

Meanwhile, the eight Democrats were trying to prove that they could get him out of Washington permanently. Threatened by all this, Mr Reagan responded by returning to the radio station in Des Moines to meander with unstopable amiability about his days as a sports announcer there in the 1930s, the event being televised live.

The Democrats were appalled by this ruthless presidential initiative. I'm surprised at the White House. They're taking this President, who's not had a good two weeks, and they're using him."

Thus Mr Patrick Caddell, the adviser to Mr Hart. Mr Caddell was a lugubrious man disguised behind a black beard. He was rather insultingly described as "Strategist for President Carter", akin to being described as Strategist for the Argentine infantry at Port Stanley.

Perhaps that was why he was lugubrious and disguised by a black beard. In any case, he seemed rather a killjoy. For the rest of us we were entranced by Mr Reagan at the radio station. They had set it out just as it was in that arcadian time when he was there.

Excitedly, we all awaited the President's return to the small studio. The man who now does his job as sports announcer reverently showed us around. "Here's where he did the 'Whistles' commercial," he explained.

The President suddenly ambled in, positioned himself lovingly behind the old microphone, inquired as to whether there was much news today, explained that everything coming in from the airport "looked so natural" just as it was in the old days, was wired up for television and, heeding the call that we were on the air, started to reminisce with a vengeance.

"You used to read from the running baseball scores coming over during the game and make out the station was doing a commentary live from the game, didn't you, Mr President?" asked the man, who now does Mr Reagan's job (in the radio station; that is).

Mr Reagan chuckled naughtily. You see, he confessed, Curly Whatdale used to sit behind the glass over there typing while the details of a game came in from Western Union. Curly would slip a piece of paper under the glass while you were at the microphone. It would contain just a couple of figures, that's all, it was a kind of code.

Mr Reagan then launched into a sample of his commentary for the Briton ignorant of the game. Adopting the excited tone of the 1930s sports commentator, the President explained that, with "Curly's code to go on," he would say something like "Dean comes out of the wind up. Here comes the pitch, and it's a hard-hit ball down the second base. So and so goes after the ball, picks it up, puts it over the first just in time for the out. All this time you were waiting for the next one from Curly."

"All he would send across would be S.C.C., which means, you see, strike, one, call. So you'd say: 'He's got the sign, comes out of the wind-up, here's the pitch and it's a strike breaking over the outside corner.'"

Mr Reagan nodded his head almost in amused disbelief that it was so long ago. How did he see his role as sports announcer, the present incumbent Mr Reagan with appropriate solemnity, an improvement on the more boring question as to how he sees his role as President.

"I always had out there a listener. I've tried to paint a picture... I had the look like shadow coming over the field. I had the chill wind coming over the stadium... They were good days," he concluded. "Sorry I rambled on," he said after we went off the air.

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

#### Royal engagements

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh attend a Luncheon at the Bank of England, 1.  
The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, attends a reception at St James's Palace for young people who have reached the Gold Standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, 11.30 to 12.30 and 3.15 to 4.15; and later, as Patron of the Sail Training Association, attends the premiere of an STA promotional film at Britannic House, Moor Lane, EC2, 6.

The Princess of Wales, Patron of the British Red Cross Youth, visits the National Headquarters of the Society, Grosvenor Crescent, SW1, 10.45.  
Prince Michael of Kent leaves for Canada, to attend Seventy-fifth Anniversary celebrations of first powered flight within the Commonwealth, at Sydney, Nova Scotia, departs from Heathrow, 9.35.

#### New exhibitions

Printmakers Circle: an exhibition of screen prints and line cuts; Tunbridge Wells Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Mount Pleasant, Tunbridge.

Wells: Mon to Fri 10 to 5.30, Sat 9.30 to 5, closed Sun (until March 6).  
Acrylics and pastels by Wendy Williams: Hereford City Museum, Board Street, Hereford; Tues to Fri 10 to 6, Thur 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 4, closed Sun and Mon (until March 10).  
The artist and the castle: Newport Museum and Art Gallery, John Frost Square, Newport, Gwent; Mon to Thurs 10 to 5.30, Fri 10 to 4.30, Sat 9.30 to 4 (until March 10).  
Etching by Bevis Sale: Prescott Museum, 34 Church Street, Prescott, Lancashire; Tues to Sat 10 to 5 (until March 10).

Last chance to see  
Paintings from the Robert Edmond Bequest, including work by Lauder, Henderson, Brown, East and Kay; MacLaurin Art Gallery, Rozelle Park, Ayr 11 to 5 (ends today).  
Fire and Smoke, an exhibition of Raku pottery; Walsall Museum and Art Gallery, Lichfield Street, Walsall; 10 to 6 (ends today).

Talks, lectures  
The life of Arthur Ransome, by Hugh Brogan, Oxford Book Association, Clarendon Press Centre, Walton Street, Oxford, 8.  
The modification of Materials by Ion Implantation and Ion Beam Mixing, by Dr G. Dearnaley, Large Lecture Theatre, Physics Poynting Building, Birmingham University, 11.  
India and Britain, by J. Calder, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 2.

Music  
Recital by the Penna Trio, Museum and Art Gallery, Chequer Road, Doncaster, 1.  
1. Recital by Mezzoforte, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.30.

Anniversaries  
Births: George Washington, 1st president of the United States, 1789, Westmoreland County, Virginia, 1732; Arthur Schopenhauer, philosopher, Danzig (Gdansk), 1788; James Russell Lowell, poet and diplomat, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1819; Robert Baden-Powell, 1st Baron Baden-Powell of Gilwell, founder of the Scout movement, London, 1857; Heinrich Hertz, physicist, Hamburg, 1857; Norman Lindsay, artist and novelist, Crowsnest, Australia, 1879; Eric Gill, sculptor, type designer and engraver, Brighton, 1882; Edna St Vincent Millay, poet and dramatist, Rockland, Maine, United States, 1892.  
Deaths: Jean-Baptiste Corot, painter, Paris, 1875; Sir Charles Lyell, geologist, London, 1875; Hugo Wolf, composer, Vienna, 1903.

National Day  
The small pear-shaped island of St Lucia in the Windward Islands group of the West Indies today celebrates the fifth anniversary of its independence from Britain. With a population of about 120,000, the mainstay of the economy is almost exclusively agricultural, with bananas far and away the biggest export.

### New books - hardback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:  
As I Please, by Jimmy Reid (Mainstream, £3.95).  
Bright Darkness, the poetry of Lord Byron presented in the context of his life and times, by Anne Fleming (Nottingham Court Press, £3.95).  
Donizetti, the Last Fugitive, by Peter Padfield (Gollancz, £12.50).  
Eisenhower the Soldier, 1890-1952, by Stephen E. Ambrose (Allen and Unwin, £12.50).  
Nineteen-Nine Novels, The Best in English since 1939, a personal choice by Anthony Burgess (Allison and Busby, £3.95).  
Rutherford, Simple Genius, by David Wilson (Hodder and Stoughton, £14.95).  
Stranger on the Square, by Arthur and Cynthia Koestler (Hutchinson, £3.95).  
The History of Ancient Israel, by Michael Grant (Weidenfeld and Nicolson, £16.50).  
The Pre-Raphaelites (Tate Gallery, £25, Penguin, £10.95).  
The Rise of the French Communist Party 1920-1947, by Edward Mortimer (Faber, £30).

### The papers

Several newspapers criticize the Labour MP Miss Joan Maynard for questioning the use of the word "terrorist" to describe members of the IRA.

The Daily Mirror says: "In her world, the left is always right and the right is always wrong. She is our Joan of Marx... more silly than similar."

"Miss Maynard says she doesn't endorse violence. Maybe not. But she does the next worst thing, she excuses it."

"Terrorism can be simply defined. It is the attempt to gain by violence what cannot be achieved through the ballot box. That is the IRA's unwavering object."

The Sun, which describes Miss Maynard as Mr Wedgwood Benn's close aide, says her sole importance is "as a symptom of the sickness which is destroying Labour as a responsible, decent political force."

The paper adds: "The Labour Party is still hell-bent for destruction. The only difference now is that the shaky hand at the controls belongs to Neil Kinnock."

The Daily Express, which says Miss Maynard is usually known as "Stalin's nanny", says she is guilty of "appalling, benighted cant."

The paper says: "She endorses Irish 'freedom fighters', but not the way they have 'freed' hundreds from the irksome bother of living."

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### Roads

London and South-east A11: Reconstruction work at Bow Road, between Bromley High Street and the Bow flyover, eastbound carriageway reduced from 8.5km to 12.3km, westbound between 1st and 4th A40. Construction of slip road for westbound carriageway of Western Avenue, outside Unigate House, east of Park Royal (Ealing); westbound carriageway reduced to two lanes, A235. Water main repairs on Brighton Road at junction with Sanderstead Lane, Croydon; single lane traffic in each direction.

Wales and west A35: Improvement work between Exeter and Launceston, temporary traffic lights at Whiddon Down, Sucklehead, Lobbjill, Lewdown, A417: Roadworks at St Oswald's Road, Gloucester; diversions via new northern bypass, A304: Improvement work between Penryn and Helston, at Longdowns, Cornwall; temporary traffic lights.

Midlands and East Angles A47: Roadworks with traffic signals at Postern, E1500: A304: Improvement work between Penryn and Helston, at Longdowns, Cornwall; temporary traffic lights.

Norfolk A534: Sewer laying at Crewe Road, Winterton, Sandbach, Cheshire; single lane traffic with traffic lights. A66: Sewer replacement at Kirkland, Kendal, Cumbria. A628: Improvement work to bridge over river Don at Thurston, South Yorkshire; single lane traffic controlled by traffic signals.

South-east A71: Roadworks east of Wilkeson, Midlothian: one lane only. A68: Road subsidence north of Dalkeith, Midlothian; all southbound traffic and northbound traffic over 30 cwt diverted, remaining northbound traffic reduced to a single lane. A7: Roadworks two and a half miles north of Stow, Borders: one lane only, controlled by temporary lights.

Information supplied by the AA.

### The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.62	1.54
Austria Sch	28.70	27.18
Belgium Fr	85.50	81.50
Canada \$	1.57	1.50
Denmark Kr	14.80	14.10
Finland Mkk	8.72	8.32
France Fr	12.39	11.89
Germany DM	4.83	3.85
Greece Dr	165.00	155.00
Hong Kong \$	11.60	11.08
Ireland Pt	12.775	12.715
Italy Lira	2480.00	2380.00
Japan Yen	354.00	338.00
Netherlands Gld	4.56	4.34
Norway Kr	11.60	11.00
Portugal Esc	199.80	189.00
South Africa Rd	1.96	1.82
Spain Ptas	229.00	220.00
Sweden Kr	12.05	11.45
Switzerland Fr	3.33	3.16
USA \$	1.49	1.44
Yugoslavia Dnr	210.00	200.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Reuters Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 342.6.  
London: The FT Index closed up 6.8 at 819.3

## Weather forecast

Pressure will be low over Britain with most districts having showers.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, central & England, East Angles, Midlands (E): Mostly cloudy, showers, perhaps longer outbreaks of rain; wind SW, becoming N later, moderate or fresh; max temp 6 to 7C (43 to 45F).

E, NE, central N England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Mostly cloudy, occasional showers, misty at times; wind S to SE, moderate or fresh; max temp 5 to 6C (41 to 43F).

Midlands (W), N Wales, NW England, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland: Showers becoming scattered, sunny or clear periods, moderate or fresh; wind N to NW, fresh at first, decreasing light to moderate; max temp 6C (43F).

Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Showers, sunny or clear intervals; wind NW, fresh or strong, decreasing moderate; max temp 6C (43F).

Leeds, District, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Sunny or clear periods, scattered showers; wind NE, moderate; max temp 6 to 7C (43 to 45F).

SE, central & England, East Angles, Midlands (E): Mostly cloudy, showers, perhaps longer outbreaks of rain; wind SW, becoming N later, moderate or fresh; max temp 6 to 7C (43 to 45F).

Midlands (W), N Wales, NW England, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland: Showers becoming scattered, sunny or clear periods, moderate or fresh; wind N to NW, fresh at first, decreasing light to moderate; max temp 6C (43F).

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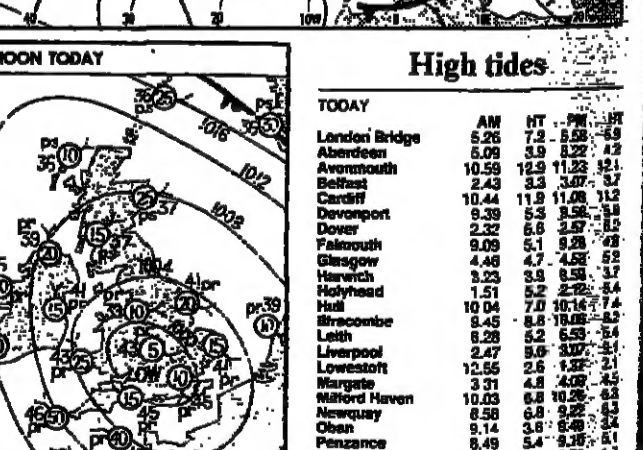
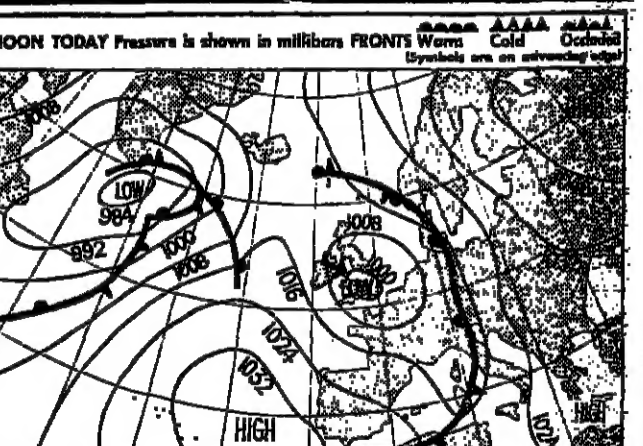
Leeds, District, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Sunny or clear periods, scattered showers; wind NE, moderate; max temp 6 to 7C (43 to 45F).

SE, central & England, East Angles, Midlands (E): Mostly cloudy, showers, perhaps longer outbreaks of rain; wind SW, becoming N later, moderate or fresh; max temp 6 to 7C (43 to 45F).

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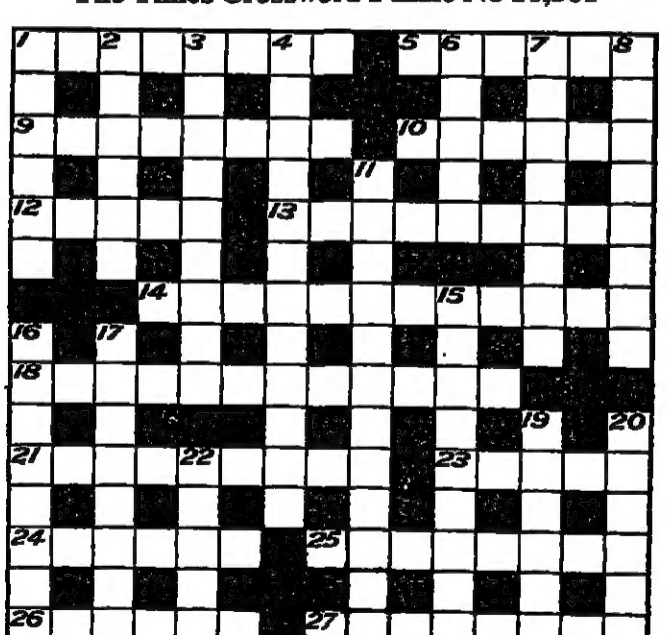


Around Britain			
Location	Wind	Temp	Cloud
London	SW	6-7	Cloudy
Edinburgh	W	5-6	Cloudy
Belfast	W	5-6	Cloudy
Cardiff	W	5-6	Cloudy
Manchester	W	5-6	Cloudy
Birmingham	W	5-6	Cloudy
Nottingham	W	5-6	Cloudy
Leeds	W	5-6	Cloudy
Sheffield	W	5-6	Cloudy
Bristol	W	5-6	Cloudy
Exeter	W	5-6	Cloudy
London (Coast)	SW	6-7	Cloudy
Edinburgh (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Belfast (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Cardiff (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Manchester (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Birmingham (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Nottingham (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Leeds (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Sheffield (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Bristol (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Exeter (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy

Abroad			
Location	Wind	Temp	Cloud
Paris	W	10-11	Cloudy
London	SW	6-7	Cloudy
Edinburgh	W	5-6	Cloudy
Belfast	W	5-6	Cloudy
Cardiff	W	5-6	Cloudy
Manchester	W	5-6	Cloudy
Birmingham	W	5-6	Cloudy
Nottingham	W	5-6	Cloudy
Leeds	W	5-6	Cloudy
Sheffield	W	5-6	Cloudy
Bristol	W	5-6	Cloudy
Exeter	W	5-6	Cloudy
London (Coast)	SW	6-7	Cloudy
Edinburgh (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Belfast (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Cardiff (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Manchester (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Birmingham (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Nottingham (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Leeds (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Sheffield (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Bristol (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy
Exeter (Coast)	W	5-6	Cloudy

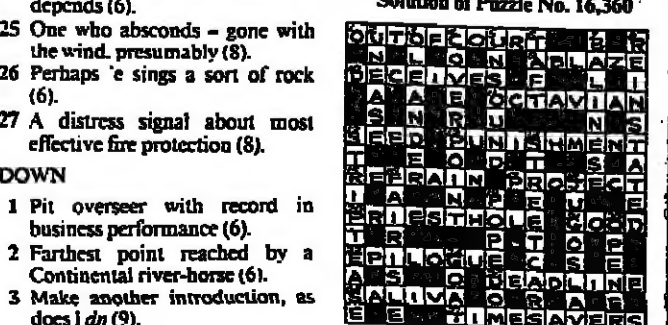
MONDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; m, snow. \* denotes Monday's figures are latest available.

### The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,361



- ACROSS
- 1 Iberian leaders in terrible thrash such as this (8).
  - 5 A comment to take notice of (6).
  - 9 Expectation of a probable customer (8).
  - 10 Two first-class shots, they say, secured this Asian bird (6).
  - 12 Subject that takes the stuffing out of most men (5).
  - 13 Looking dismal we plead for one outside Ohio (9).
  - 14 Maybe Jack's rank in the Church? (12).
  - 18 21, possibly, is part of the illustration (12).
  - 21 Design advertisement found among directions for the walk (9).
  - 23 Last character to get an honour, years back (5).
  - 24 A product of the freeze? It depends (6).
  - 25 One who absconds - gone with the wind, presumably (8).
  - 26 Perhaps 'e sings a sort of rock (6).
  - 27 A distress signal about most effective fire protection (8).

### Solution of Puzzle No 16,360



CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 12